

HOME NEWS

Bread-van drivers' leaders decide by majority of one to fix 18p minimum price for wrapped loaf

By Hugh Clayton

Van drivers' leaders voted by a majority of one yesterday to fix a minimum price of 18p for a large wrapped loaf. But grocers in Scotland prepared to fix a 19p minimum in response to union pressure.

Delegates of the United Road Transport Union voted by 64 to 63 at a conference in Manchester and rejected a call from national officials for a minimum of 17p and pressure from some shop stewards in England, for 19p.

The proposal will be considered by the union executive on Saturday. If the 18p minimum is adopted, shops selling for less will be boycotted by van drivers.

Drivers fear that price-cutting by supermarkets on the scale envisaged by ministers would prevent small grocers from surviving and thus reduce scope for deliveries. A 15p rise is conceivable under the new government price control introduced this month, and many supermarkets want to sell at 17p. Key Markets said yesterday that it would continue to charge 17p.

Mr Jackson Moore, general secretary of the union, said: "I do not like being in conflict with the Government. I am a Labour Party supporter. He is to see the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service tomorrow.

Fine Fare, which owns some of the largest supermarkets in

Yorkshire and Scottish miners' leaders vote to oppose offer on retirement

By Paul Rourledge

Labour Editor

Coalfield union leaders of more than 85,000 miners yesterday decided to defy official policy and recommend rejection of the National Coal Board's offer on early retirement, which is the subject of a secret pithead ballot next week.

By 76 votes to one, the area council of Yorkshire miners voted to oppose the deal because some surface workers who have not advanced to the underground experience are excluded.

In Edinburgh, a Scottish miners' delegate conference also voted to ask members to vote against the board's offer.

After the Scottish conference Mr Michael McGahey, president of the National Union of Min-

ers' Scottish area and the union's national vice-president, said: "I can say after many years of angry conference that this was one in which there was a lot of heat generated in opposition to the proposed arrangements."

It had been suggested that Scottish miners should go it alone. "We were fortunate to persuade the conference not to take unilateral action". he added.

The Scottish miners noted the "limited advance" made in the past two weeks in negotiations between the union and the board, but deplored the failure of the union's executive to negotiate early retirement for surface workers.

A vote for acceptance was also made by the Durham area executive.

Government pleased with devolution Bill's progress

From Our Correspondent

Glasgow

The Scottish National Party's amendment on economic and taxation powers to the Government's devolution Bill would not be accepted, Mr Ewing, Under-Secretary of State at the Scottish Office, said in Glasgow yesterday. He did not see the SNP as a danger in the Bill, to which they were committed.

Such amendments would lead to separation and were somewhat dishonest. There were being presented to make people believe that they were for devolution, whereas there was no doubt if those SNP amendments were incorporated there would not be devolution but separation.

The minister said he was delighted with the progress of the Bill and the Government hoped it would be with the House of Lords by Whitsun, and assembly elections would take place early in 1978. The principle of economic and political unity of the United

Kingdom would be preserved. The principle would not be jettisoned.

On Shetland, Mr Ewing said he had met the Shetland Islands Council, and the Prime Minister had written to the council. They were part of the United Kingdom and they started from that basis.

"It could be that the Shetland Isles has a case for representation within the assembly," he said. "These are matters that will be considered as we proceed along the road."

On the response of English MPs to the Bill, Mr Ewing said he could understand the feelings of members from Tyneside and Merseyside, but they had come a long way since the English attitude had been described as "the English backlash".

"I think they are rapidly coming to the conclusion that the economic and political unity of the United Kingdom is being maintained."

Shetland attitudes, page 16

Stones thrown at man after murder sentence

From Our Correspondent

Liverpool

As a convicted murderer was leaving the dock at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday to start a life sentence an elderly man sitting in the public gallery flung stones at him, shouting: "You bastard, you killed my son."

Hugh James Cunningham, aged 41, a taxi driver, of Knowsley Heights, Huyton, near Liverpool, who was apparently unharmed in the incident, had pleaded not guilty to murdering Lewis Firman Aldis, aged 27, and to wounding Mrs Rita Russell, his former woman friend, with intent, and to aggravated burglary at her flat in Durning Road, Liverpool. Mr Aldis was stabbed.

Mr Justice Caulfield passed concurrent sentences of seven years' imprisonment on the last two charges.

Woman killed her husband and son

Mrs Mary Kitson, aged 39, of Dunsmore Drive, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, who was said to have killed her son, aged four, and husband, was sentenced at Leeds Crown Court yesterday to four years' imprisonment for manslaughter.

Mr Justice Croom-Johnson said: "She is a danger, not only to herself but to other people in the foreseeable future."

Continued from page 1

On Friday morning Mr and Mrs Moran were sent to Chesterfield to shop but they told no one what was happening at the cottage. Mr Mitchell said they had visited five shops and a petrol station. "It is difficult to know why they did not contact the police," he added. "It is not easy to understand the target of Mrs Moran's mind. Her daughter, who lived at the house with Hughes and she did not know for sure whether her father was dead or alive. She believed that on the first evening Hughes might have killed her father. Hughes would not let her into her daughter's or her father's bedrooms."

Police scientists now believe that Sarah Moran was killed on the day Hughes began his siege. Police bundled Mrs Moran into her husband's car in an attempt to get her home.

On Friday evening Hughes forced Mr Moran and his wife to drive to Brett Plastics at Staveley, 10 miles away, where he ordered Mr Moran, who worked there, to open the safe in his office. After stealing about £100 in cash he ordered them to drive home.

The police are convinced that Hughes was ready to leave the Morans' home after the robbery. But after they had returned home Mrs Moran alerted a neighbour, Mr Leonard Newman, and told him the family were being held hostage. Hughes went back into the cottage, saying he wanted some maps and stabbed Mr Moran and Mrs Moran to death.

He bundled Mrs Moran into her husband's car in an attempt to get her home.

Signal-box dispute threatens rail peace

By Our Labour Staff

A dispute between the National Union of Railwaysmen and the Transport and General Workers' Union last week

"They have been told today to get up to 18p tomorrow," the company said. "Some of our stores do not trade on Mondays, so that a few will probably have bread at 17p on Tuesday. We would maintain that price at many of our stores if we were able to."

The Galbraith group, with 400 shops in Scotland, said: "We are selling for 18p. Where a distributor refuses to supply us to us at this price we are reluctantly increasing the price to 18p."

Scotland, said it had told managers to raise the price of large wrapped loaves from 17p to 19p today in line with a decision of the Transport and General Workers' Union last week.

Delegates of the United Road Transport Union voted by 64 to 63 at a conference in Manchester and rejected a call from national officials for a minimum of 17p and pressure from some shop stewards in England, for 19p.

The union executive will be considered by the union executive on Saturday. If the 18p minimum is adopted, shops selling for less will be boycotted by van drivers.

Fine Fare, which owns some of the largest supermarkets in

"Such awards will help to mislead non-economists"

Balogh snub for Nobel committee

By Peter Jay

Economics Editor

The Nobel Prize for Economics is derived as "a sorry charade" in a bitterly worded letter (dated January 13 but released yesterday) to Professor Erik Lundberg, chairman of the prize committee, from Lord Balogh, former economic adviser to Sir Harold Wilson.

Lord Balogh describes some of the latest awards, which have included that to the 1976 winner, Professor Milton Friedman, as "insulting to people who, like myself, see in economic analysis a means of lessening the misery of the mass of grossly underprivileged peoples and bring about greater equality and security".

Lord Balogh recently debated Britain's economic plight and policies on television with Professor Friedman. Letters received by *The Times* unanimously awarded the hour to Professor Friedman.

Lord Balogh asserts that

"such awards will help to mislead a number of non-economists in positions of great power, like the present West German Chancellor, into policies which will, through regressive tax reform, deflation and unemployment, lower the living standards of those least capable of sustaining such pressure".

Observers familiar with Chancellor Schmidt's opinion about all economists say yesterday that he is unlikely to be dazzled even by Nobel Prize winners, whether charlatans or true prophets.

Lord Balogh writes: "I have always been of the opinion that, since economics is not a science but a method of reasoning based on definite political values and an intuitive art of evaluating relationships which are highly unstable, it is not a suitable discipline for the awarding of prizes such as the Nobel claims to be."

"Even literature and 'peace', he writes, "must be regarded in the same way".

There have so far been 12

"prize-winners in economic sciences in memory of Alfred Nobel", of whom five were American citizens at the time of receiving the award. That is a distinctly lower proportion than that of American economists among all living economists.

See list on page 1. Ragnar Frisch (Norway) and Jan Tinbergen (Holland), 1969; Paul Samuelson (United States), 1971; Kenneth Arrow (United States) and Sir John Hicks (United Kingdom), 1972; Wassily Leontief (United States), 1973; Gunnar Myrdal (Sweden) and Friedrich von Hayek (United Kingdom), 1974; Leonid Kantorovich (Soviet Union) and Tjalling Koopmans (Holland), 1975; and Milton Friedman (United States), 1976.

It is presumed that Lord Balogh particularly disliked the awards to Friedman and Hayek, noted "free market" economists, but Myrdal is an acknowledged hero among socialist economists.

In brief

Clearing snow job for youth

A coroner in Birmingham warned elderly against trying to clear from outside their homes Richard Whittington, of Mr Ralph Cappy, one of five people said to have died while clearing snow week.

"The clearing of snow be left to teenagers or adults", Dr Whittington recorded a verdict of natural causes Cappy, of Barrows Yardley.

Hope for Pakistan

Islamabad, Jan 17.—14,000 Pakistanis here to join their families in what have been told by Dr Summerskill, Under-Sec State for the Home Offi the Government will speed consideration.

Crash driver's escape

Mr John Robinson, of Gledhow Valley Road escaped with only a thumb when he was through the windscreen vehicle into a stream skid at Wardenford, Northland, yesterday.

Pilot fined £100

Trevor Frederick aged 41, of Farmhouse Tunbridge Wells, Kent flew an aircraft over to let his passenger v home was fined £100 bridge Wells Magistrate yesterday.

Governor stays on

Hongkong, Jan 17.—Terror of Hongkong, Sir Macpherson, will stay in for an extra year after t of office expires later to a Government statement.

Life jail for killing

Andrew Lonsdale, age factory worker, of Drive, Newcastle upon Tyne Court yesterday for the manslaughter of Mrs Mawson, aged 43, of Flax, Durham.

Prisoner sought

Peter Anderson, age remand prisoner, relies bail to attend his mother's funeral at P Berkshire, yesterday dis ed and was being sou the police last night.

Court evacuated

Horseferry Road Mag Court, Westminster, was yesterday after a covery of a suspicious p the third floor. The found it was a radio.

Escaped man sought

Police were searching day for Roy McNeil, 41, who escaped from Er detention centre, near I Wiltshire. He was ser sentence for burglary.

Now we may learn to live

it this way round, but it something very ne would be a complete re of what I would have it was normal human nature inclination in this country.

Asked whether he d Britain had much to co to the world, he said he see no reason why not potential was there, ar were perfectly competitiv we got into the posit being successful. He's reason why Britain shou overcome her difficulties will was there.

Legal aid applies to European court

By Our Legal Correspondent

Legal aid granted to defendant for his appearance before an English magistrate's court covered the costs of taking the case to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg for interpretation, the Queen's Bench Divisional Court decided yesterday.

The union said last night that more than 150 schools would close. Action would be taken by road workers, staff in residential homes and refuse collectors.

Supporting action is expected at eight hospitals. A march through Trowbridge is planned and councillors are to be lobbied.

The decision clarifies an un-

certainty about the status of legal aid before the Luxembourg court, and the procedure for granting it.

The issue arose after the conviction last year of M. Roger Bouchereau, a French citizen, of drug offences. Mr St John Harwood, of the Marlborough Street, Chancery Lane, wrote to make an order for his deportation, but M. Bouchereau's counsel argued that that would be contrary to EEC rules on the freedom of movement of workers within the Community.

The magistrate decided to refer the case to the European Court for interpretation of the legal point involved, but ruled that he had no power to grant legal aid.

He said that certain other claims had been made against Mr Slater respecting other companies in the Far East. A senior police officer from Hong Kong had come to Britain and Mr Slater had given him full cooperation. The police officer's investigation had been concluded successfully and he had returned to Hong Kong, but Singapore had not bothered to make similar preliminary inquiries. Mr Mathew said.

The case continues on page 16

Margaret MacDonald, aged 20, was sentenced at Glasgow High Court yesterday to life imprisonment for murdering Mrs Christine Elder, aged 21, of Possilpark, Glasgow, on October 24 last, because Mrs Elder walked out of a restaurant leaving Margaret MacDonald and her sister with the bill.

The magistrate decided to prevent the application of the earnings limit, before pensions are reduced, rising in April from £35 a week to £50. Mrs Chalker, Conservative spokesman on social services, says in a statement that the Opposition will also try to link the £50 limit to rises in average earnings.

The proposal will be con-

Ombudsman will study vaccination complaints

By John Roper

Health Services Correspondent

Sir Idwal Pugh, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Health (Ombudsman), has asked for individual or perhaps a group of parents' complaints before deciding whether he can investigate alleged failures in the health service about warnings of possible danger to children given whooping cough vaccine.

The request for an investigation was made by Mr Ashley, Labour member for Stoke-on-Trent South, when he saw the commissioner yesterday. Mr Ashley is campaigning for compensation for about 300 children who were damaged by vaccines. He believes that as many as a thousand children may eventually be involved.

He wants to know where the responsibility lies when a child suffers brain damage after routine vaccination. His letter said the implication of the present position appeared to be that it damage could be proved to be due to vaccination the responsibility lay with individual doctors.

No reply has yet been received.

Move to defeat Government on pensioners' earnings limit

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Conservatives will attempt to defeat the Government today on its proposals to prevent the earnings limit before pensions are reduced, rising in April from £35 a week to £50. Mrs Chalker, Conservative spokesman on social services, says in a statement that the Opposition last year to legislate for the present limit and the new one of £50.

The proposal will be con-

sidered during the committee stage on the Social Security (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill.

The Government wants to retain the £53 limit this April but to allow for an annual review in line with earnings.

Index-linking of the earnings rule has persuaded Labour backbenchers not to vote against the Government in committee, although some of them combined with the Opposition last year to legislate for the present limit and the new one of £50.

The proposal will be con-

In brief

Clearing job for

Job for

Hope for

Crash driver

Pilot fined

Crash driver

Governor

Life jail for

Prisoner

Court case

Escaped

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Recordings

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The TriStar family takes a long step forward.

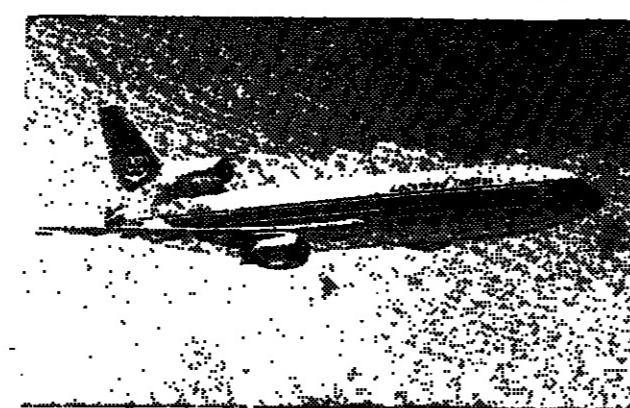
Dash 1

3650 miles 42,000 lbs. of thrust per engine



Dash 100

4200 miles 42,000 lbs. of thrust per engine



Dash 200

4250 miles 48,000 lbs. of thrust per engine



Dash 250

5200 miles 48,000 lbs. of thrust per engine



**The Dash 500.
The 6100 mile TriStar.**

LOCKHEED L-1011

Soon passengers flying long routes will be able to stretch out and enjoy the L-1011 TriStar's comfort in even quieter surroundings. The long-range TriStar—the Dash 500—is in production. And it will be even quieter inside than the TriStars now serving 10 airlines around the world. While the Dash 500 adds a new dimension of range and quiet to the TriStar family, it

hasn't left out any of the features that have made TriStar the most comfortable big jetliner in the world. Such as direct lift control that smoothes out the ups-and-downs other jetliners experience during approaches. The cool, indirect lighting so easy on the eyes and found only in TriStar. And, of course, the TriStar feeling of spaciousness.

The Dash 500 and its powerful new Rolls-Royce engines also will give airlines a comfortable feeling about fuel efficiency. The present TriStars already are the world's quietest, most reliable*, most comfortable jetliners in the world. What a springboard for the Dash 500.

The Lockheed L-1011 TriStar Family

*The L-1011 TriStar became the world's most reliable big jet in August, 1973, after only 16 months in service. And has been ever since, based on airline statistics covering all big wide-body jets. The statistics, which record mechanical delays and flight cancellations, reflect the ability of TriStar to operate on schedule.

HOME NEWS

'Think-tank' proposes new opinion surveys on social priorities in education, health, housing, welfare

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The Central Policy Review Staff, known popularly as the "think tank", has asked whether the Joint Approach to Social Policy (Jasp) programme should be changed. It proposed the programme originally to decide social policy at a time of economic restraint.

Now the review staff is suggesting that ministers should make public speeches on the options available for social services and their consequences. In that way an informed debate could take place, it is proposed, on issues as varied as the future of education, health, housing and welfare.

The review staff also proposes opinion surveys to test which options would command public support. Such surveys would have to be designed as to avoid raising public expectations beyond what is possible, particularly on cash benefits.

Two groups for whom much more financial support has been pledged by the Labour Party are one-parent families and the disabled, but surveys that gave the impression that there might be early action to help either group would be building up false hopes.

A third new approach might be occasional talks between two departments at top level to discuss important joint policy issues. An example suggested by the review staff would be discussions between the Secretaries of State and permanent secretaries at the Departments of Health and Social Security and Education and Science on use of education resources to expand social work training.

Ministers are expected to decide on those issues this month at their third joint meeting under the programme. The meetings have enabled ministers to consider medium-term priorities across their departmental boundaries.

The programme has provided ministers with better information on which to decide priorities through the work of a specialist unit set up by the Central Statistical Office. But there is some scepticism in Whitehall about the idea that other advances made under the programme are a direct result. Critics concede that cooperation has improved since Jasp began 18 months ago.

An important activity under the Jasp programme is review of the entire range of the social services ordered by the Cabinet. The review staff has told ministers, however, that anything on the scale of the annual defence review, which the Cabinet had sought,

is not feasible. It is concentrating on four specific areas. The most important will consider how the social services respond to clients' needs in education, health, housing or welfare.

The other three studies cover children, including the impact of the falling birth rate on education and health; use of manpower in the social services; and the variation between services in different geographical areas.

Studies completed include the likely impact on different groups of new policy proposals, the cooperation between local and central government, and the implications for the social services of population

Big unions will try to beat the £4 limit on pay increases

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Staff

Some of the biggest unions are involved in a spate of claims being examined by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) for improved terms and conditions outside the TUC-Government guidelines.

The applications are being made under schedule 11 of the Employment Protection Act, which has been widely condemned by employers for its wage inflationary implications. The Transport and General Workers' Union, with 1,900,000 members, has already lodged some claims, along with the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (Astms), whose 10 claims so

far are understood to involve more than two thousand workers.

The General and Municipal Workers' Union, third largest of the unions, is considering about ten claims at national level as well as some local claims. The National Union of Journalists was among the first to lodge a claim for improved conditions for some London magazine members.

The potential of the measure to beat the £4 maximum allowed under the present guidelines is still not clear, as the Confederation of British Industry and the Engineering Employers' Federation, both of which have condemned the scope of the measure.

The Department of Employment believes that many unions are getting too excited about the possibilities and that the credibility of the pay policy will not be undermined.

Ex-Rommel officer keeps Ulster buses profitable

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

For residents in many parts of Northern Ireland the sight of a burning bus has become too familiar for more than a passing glance. In the last four months eighty have been destroyed by extremists, more than during any comparable period since the emergency began.

The total since 1969 exceeds 470, although Mr Werner Heubeck, the German-born managing director of Ulsterbus and Citybus, is uncertain of the exact figure. "It is like asking in wartime how many planes have been lost", he said.

Despite almost daily disruptions he runs one of the few public transport undertakings in Europe still financially profitable. Last year the surplus was £1.3m and it is expected to exceed £2m when returns are completed in March.

The main reasons are the unconventional management skills and approach of Mr Heubeck, once an explosives officer with Rommel's Afrika Korps, who frequently confounds the police and Army by personally carrying bombs off his buses. "It is not against the law, so there is little they can do to stop me", he said with a smile.

Recently, in a remote community miles from his Belfast headquarters, Mr Heubeck, for the fifteenth time, removed a booby bomb from a hijacked bus. It is an aspect of his activities that receives little publicity.

"My drivers face risks daily, so why shouldn't I?" he said.

With his Tyrolean hat, lapelless suits, and guitar-like accent he remains unmistakably German but speaks fluent English, first practised as interpreter in an American prisoner-of-war camp. Highly respected by his employees, Mr Heubeck blends modern techniques with the tough, individualistic approach of an old-style boss, handling all union negotiations and stubbornly resisting political attempts to interfere with bus schedules.

Mr Heubeck attributes the network's financial success to an overriding determination to



Mr Heubeck amid the wreckage of a bus destroyed by extremists.

remain profitable. All buses are one-man-operated. Double-deckers are being replaced by single-deckers with standing room, and manpower has been heavily trimmed.

At 53 he is looking for a new industrial challenge, preferably involving another transport concern. No job is ever completely finished", he remarked, "but if I was blown up today, Ulster's buses would go on running because the pattern has been set."

Mr Heubeck attributes the network's financial success to an overriding determination to

Mr Ennals studies complaints at hospital

Mr Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, Northampton General Hospital where doctors they were promised of service they offered. He said press conference later today will keep in touch with the hospital's difficulties.

"I have no doubt the standards of patient care in Northampton are first class. We need to separate the blame as seen by the patients as seen by nursing and medical staff.

Parts of the hospital are old and difficult for the patients and nursing staff to work in. "But my impression is hospital where devoted staff coping with difficult problems both by the age of buildings and by the size of the population."

He attacked "senseless newspaper articles on the hospital, saying: "It is no service to the health service or to the people who use the health service, for staff to be exaggerated."

"I do not want to give impression that things a fact, but we must get proportion. I have been critical of hospitals where the condition of the doctors and nurses worse than here, but certainly urgent problem.

Asked about reports of cancer patients awaiting treatment could not be accommodated in the hospital from up to six Mr Ennals said: "The list of waiting lists is a long one, which causes me concern. There are still shall have to take to waiting time."

He was disturbed by the difficulties posed by hospital by the size of the hospital's population. "It is a factor that disturbs me is the pressure of patients said.

Mr Arthur Bates, a colleague chairman of a committee said that he came out of the meeting with a clear message: "The here is deteriorating a deterioration further unless something is done."

Alan Jennings, of the staff committee, "The point we have through to the minister the people of this area we have defended the services of the hospital lately and the result patients are well looked after but there is poverty in hospital. In our view the edge of a disaster is imminent."

It would seem an inference that people are because waiting lists are longer. Someone who wait two weeks or longer to hospital will not be a case for treatment as one admitted as soon as possible."

Negligence blamed for swine fever

Negligence in preparing feed

may be the cause of the latest outbreak of swine vesicular disease which has led to the slaughter of more than 3,500 pigs in the past four months, according to scientists at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Last summer animal health experts at the ministry declared the United Kingdom clear of the disease which had passed since the last series.

The animal health division of the ministry said yesterday: "The last four outbreaks have all occurred on premises where swill is fed. The possibility of the virus entering the food chain cannot be discounted."

Plan to move staff 'grotesque'

A £29m plan to transfer than four-thousand Ministry Defence civil servants to diff was described as a waste of public money.

Mr Gwynfor Evans, of Plaid Cymru, yesterday

In a letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, he said diff could not house it people and had a wait of 3,600 families.

Water-rate increase

The North West Authority announced yesterday that charges for water supplies in the new year would cost on average a week more. The charge sewerage and environmental services would rise by b 1p and 2p a week.

New press technology planned as 'mouldy old carriage'

Asking craft printing to be suspicious of the national press about

the changes while

it has been virtually no action or information

printing workers it is

that "the membership

expected to give

approval in a package

in extremely vague and

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apparently is not solid

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at working party levels.

It argues that seven

equities and anomalies

found in the joint propo

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terms are a charter

highest-paid in the

although a majority of

members are not in the

gory.

On pensions, it argues

the initial objective

union-employer committee

extremely modest.

The document states that the

membership is based

channel. "If it is now

accepted that members

will negotiate

levels, remunerations, se

and the introductio

new technology, we mig

as well accept that our

is finished anyway".

clades.

Industrial action begins in 300 schools

More than two thousand teachers in three hundred schools in Avon began industrial action yesterday in protest against redundancies and education cuts.

They are all members of the National Union of Teachers, and are taking action for an indefinite period. Mr Jack Evans, an executive member of the NUT, said in Bristol. They are refusing to cover for colleagues absent through illness and refusing to cover unfilled vacancies.

The teachers' move follows the dismissal of 32 part-time teachers and the reduction in hours for a further 30 part-timers.

160 children in blood-lead survey

Birmingham is to continue its investigation of blood-lead levels with a survey of children aged between one and five. A total of 160 children, 80 of each sex, from all parts of the city will give blood samples in March.

The results will be reported to Mr Howell, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, and are likely to be sent to the EEC in Brussels. The work may be important in helping to determine what happens next about lead in the environment, only in Britain but across Europe.

Norwegian with pistol fined

Olav Askim Kjeserud, aged 35, a Norwegian pistol-shooting champion, who said he thought it was safe to travel to Britain unarmoured, was fined £50 at Marylebone Magistrates' Court yesterday.

He admitted having a Browning automatic pistol and four rounds of ammunition without a certificate.

Owl warning

Cheshire police issued a warning yesterday about a male eagle owl which escaped from an aviary at Sandbach during the weekend. The police said the bird could kill a deer and must not be approached.

Need to train a new breed of administrator

By Peter Hennessy

The Civil Service has just completed the first stage of a three-year reorganization of training which may lead to a new style of public administration by the 1980s.

The impetus for reform has come from the failure of the Civil Service College to live up to the high hopes that accompanied its foundation in 1970.

The need to train a new breed of administrator, better equipped to formulate economic, industrial and social policy and to run a large public sector, is keenly felt in Whitehall by both ministers and civil servants alike.

The first, fairly prosaic, phase of reorganization sprang from an internal management review within the Civil Service Department. Its chief feature involved a tickler system of administration for existing training provision.

But the appointment of a new principal for the Civil Service College, Mrs Barbara Sloman, a career civil servant of under-secretary rank, who has replaced an academic outsider, is regarded as a significant harbinger of change. She will report to Mr John Moore, a deputy secretary in the Civil Service Department, who assumes responsibility under the new arrangement both for training at departmental level and within the college.

The second stage of reorganization, which may be of permanent significance in

changing the style of the Civil Service over a generation, will concentrate on preparing senior civil servants for the highest responsibilities. Allied to that will be improvements in training for executive officers, who fulfil the middle-management requirements of the public service.

The general Select Committee on Expenditure, which MPs visited last autumn, and remained impressed.

Ministers, too, have become increasingly converted to the value of an administrator who could perform a variety of tasks. French style, within the public sector by combining, for example, a post in the Department of Industry with a spell in a nationalized concern or a period in a large unit of local government which carries in the Department of the Environment. A common concern of training at a British ENA is seen as a prerequisite for successful two-way movement to the mutual benefit of Whitehall and the public bodies, and

the kind of public service polyglot produced by the Ecole Nationale d'Administration in Paris (ENA), which MPs visited last autumn, and remained impressed.

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There is some basis in fact for the popular identification of North and South, bounded by a line drawn from the Severn to the Wash.

According to the regional statistics collected by the Central Statistical Office, the North, especially the North-East, Yorkshire and Humberside, is dirtier and less healthy. Its households receive comparatively more in social security money but earn less on average each week and are more likely to have a wage earner unemployed.

Well known cultural differences between the regions find a place in the figures.

Health and high incomes

Social trends, 5: Marked differences between regions and classes

By David Walker

Sociologists say British society is characterized more by its solidarity than its divisions. None the less there are persistent differences between the various regions and the social classes. During the past few years geographical and social changes have already altered, except for some minor, takeable signs that the distribution of earned income is becoming more even.

There is some basis in fact for the popular identification of North and South, bounded by a line drawn from the Severn to the Wash.

Scotland has proportionately more prosecutions for driving under the influence of alcohol though fewer cars a head. The North-east region consumes proportionately more meat and fish.

HOME NEWS.

Studies complete in Europe 2: Towards common goals

EC influence on links abroad

By Peter Berthoud

In the possible exception of agriculture, Britain's external relations have been more profoundly changed by four years of EEC membership than any other important aspect of government.

The most profound change has been in relations with the eight other countries of the enlarged European Community. Before joining, "I have had a *de facto* if not formal special relationship with the United States, and we need to continue our economic and emotional links with the members of the Commonwealth," he said.

Parts of Britain's foreign policy have been enriched by those links, which has been mainly enriching to the Commonwealth at the political level, and in most cases also at economic level.

While upon accession Britain entered into an immediately close relationship with eight relatively comparable West European countries, with them it is bound to work towards a set of common goals, including the circulation of goods and services.

"I do not expect us to be reached by decisions binding on members, with some real transfer of power to the European institutions where the difference between the one hand and the other hand is the size of Europe," he said.

Asked about whether Britain could not be a special links, reformed the hospital system, at once Mr. Evans said: "It is given a wholly new depth of understanding of our relations with her partners in the Commonwealth. Within the Commonwealth there have been some interesting sub-parties. The London-Bonn-Paris group has been greatly enhanced, after some early discussions."

Views of the Benelux countries have taken on a new significance. Italy, once a partner in adventure, though not always well known, has been developing fast since Britain joined,

its greatly strengthened international identity.

Ever since the Original Six signed the Treaty of Rome in March, 1957, the economic power of the EEC had exercised a growing attraction for much of the rest of the world. It was much strengthened by enlargement.

When Britain joined it found itself a party to a complex web of trade, aid and cooperation agreements contracted by the EEC. Since Britain's accession they have been extended to embrace most "new Commonwealth" countries.

There are some two dozen of them, for example, in the Lomé Convention, which brings trade and aid concessions and a measure of income stabilization on commodity exports to almost 50 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries.

India has benefited from a separate agreement with the EEC.

In an interesting reversal of the tide of history, Britain has been brought back into closer touch with the Mediterranean countries through the EEC's Mediterranean policy. It is basically a British policy scarcely existed, although Britain had a large hand in shaping the EEC's policy.

At the last session of the United Nations General Assembly the Nine voted together on 82 per cent of all resolutions, and the Presidency spoke on their behalf on 50 occasions. On an issue of common concern like Cyprus, British policy coincides with a broad EEC position.

In the capitals of non-member states there is an increasing measure of consultation among diplomats of the Nine, and sometimes even of Turkey eventually join the EEC as full members. If the EEC does prove to be a bastion of democracy in those countries, and can promote rather than inhibit the growth of their tender economies, Britain could find itself part of an important development.

Many of those new relationships are already taken for granted. The more visible development has happened outside the confines of the Treaty of Rome, in the field of foreign policy cooperation, particularly in Brussels jargon as political cooperation. That started in 1970, has been developing fast since Britain joined,

To be continued

WEST EUROPE



President Mobutu with King Baudouin at the royal palace in Laeken, Brussels.

Gunman held at Mobutu welcome

Brussels, Jan 17.—Belgian security police, sent to protect President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire at Brussels airport today, leapt on an African who drew a revolver, a sub-machine gun and a sub-machine gun, seconds before the President drove past.

Three hours later the African was released. The Zaire Embassy had assure the police that he was a member of the President's entourage.

Dressed in civilian clothes, he was standing among a crowd of Africans, who were allowed on the tarmac to see King Baudouin's welcome. President Mobutu and his wife on an eight-day visit to Belgium. While the crowd dance and chanted "long live Belgian-Zaire friendship" he suddenly drew the gun.

The Belgian Foreign Ministry later stated laconically that while it was customary for an official security guard to carry a revolver, a sub-machine gun was "most unusual".

Belgian security services said that they had not been informed that official Zaire security men would be on duty at the airport. However, the Zaire Embassy said that its Zaire security men had been handed to the Belgian authorities well in advance of the visit. They had arrived in Brussels a week ago.

Belgian officials were unable to say how the African managed to penetrate the airport security post with a concealed sub-machine gun. The President, who has survived several assassination attempts at home, appeared not to notice the scuffle as the column of cars sped past on its way to a royal luncheon.

During his visit, the President will have talks with Mr. Leo Tindemans, the Prime Minister, on Zaire's international debts—estimated to amount to \$350m to \$400m (£220m to £250m).

Belgian efforts to help the Zaire economy, notably its outmoded railways and shipping.

President Mobutu arrived in power in 1960 soon after Belgium granted independence to Zaire, formerly the Belgian Congo. He stepped down the next year in favour of a civilian government, which he ousted in 1965—Feuter and Agence France-Presse.

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Four Nato countries check arms contract

From Michael Hornby
Brussels, Jan 17

Denmark, Holland, Norway and Belgium, the four European Nato countries which agreed in principle in June, 1975, to buy the American F-16 fighter aircraft, decided today to seek further elucidation of the co-production terms being offered by the United States before finally approving the contract.

This agreement, however, was dependent on the final price of the F-16 being kept within a ceiling of \$6,039m (£3,58m). Apparently the Americans now estimate that maintenance of the 58 per cent co-production share would raise the price of the aircraft above this level because of sharp increases in production costs in Europe.

This calculation is challenged by the four European countries. Politically, they need to retain a substantial co-production share to appease domestic opposition groups which favoured a European replacement of the aircraft.

Mr Moeller said it was hoped that all the parties would be ready to sign the final contract by the end of March, but it might take longer.

According to Mr. Moeller and other Danish officials, the original agreement envisaged that 58 per cent of the procurement costs of the 350 F-16s to be supplied to European air forces would be offset by orders for component parts placed with European manufacturers.

The meeting was called on my initiative simply to get the remaining problems cleared up", he said. It had been the general wish of the four potential European purchasers of the F-16 to clarify their position before pursuing the matter further with General Dynamics, the manufacturer of the aircraft.

Mr. Moeller said it was hoped that all the parties would be ready to sign the final contract by the end of March, but it might take longer.

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Jan 17

Proposals, involving the loss of 363 jobs to the World Health Organization (WHO)—313 of them at headquarters here and 50 at regional offices—have been approved by the executive board. The organization currently employs almost 5,000 people: 1,500 in Geneva and the rest at the six regional offices and in the field.

The staff reduction is a result of reorganization in compliance with the decision by last year's World Health assembly that by 1980 the WHO must allocate 60 per cent of its regular budget to technical cooperation in health matters.

The cuts and other economies will enable \$12,900,000 (£7,600,000) to be diverted to additional programmes for developing countries.

WHO to make 363 of its staff redundant

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Jan 17

The printers' union affiliated to the communist-led CGT, has decided to call another 24-hour strike in Paris on Wednesday. They are protesting against the deadlock in negotiations between their representatives and M. Morin, the government mediator, in the affairs of *Le Parisien Libéré*, which are continuing on Friday of 12 printers for destroying copies of the newspaper and damaging a van.

As a result, there will be no newspapers in Paris on Wednesday, except for *Le Parisien Libéré* itself which is printed outside Paris by non-CGT union members. It will be the fifth stoppage in the Paris press in 12 months.

In a statement today, the union claims that the proposals made by M. Morin to end the two-year conflict over the introduction of new technology and the laying off of redundant staff deliberately ignored the legitimate rights of the workers of the newspaper.

The solution he proposed involved acceptance of the employer's standpoint.

Sigmar Andreoni returns to Rome on Wednesday.

Woman buried in avalanche rescued by dog

Chamonix, Jan 17.—A rescue dog today found a woman alive after she had been buried by an avalanche for two and a half hours on the Col des Montets near here.

The woman, named as Mme Dupont of Paris, had a temperature of only 30°C (86°F) when rescued. She was admitted to Chamonix hospital.

She and her husband had been snowshoeing in an area closed to traffic when the avalanche hit them. Her husband freed himself and went for help.—AP.

Communist printers call Paris press strike

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Independent schools seek cooperation in facility-sharing with state sector

By Deryck Doherty
London Correspondent

Independent schools yesterday for the first time met with state school heads to discuss the possibility of sharing sixth forms, the teaching of teachers, and the use of school buildings, by both sectors.

Asked what had much to offer the head teachers of independent schools told a conference in London to launch a statement, "which they hope will be the first to be made by independent schools".

Independent Schools Committee, set up in 1974, consists of more than a thousand fee-paying schools.

Bolster, chairman of the committee and a former education minister, said:

"The idea of sharing facilities is appropriate than before because of the economic restraints.

Independent schools right not only to exist, flourish and to make contribution to the main-

national system of education", he said.

Sir Desmond Lee, former Headmaster of Winchester College and chairman of the sub-committee that drafted the policy statement referred to a letter in *The Times* on Saturday suggesting a north-south centres in London. He said arrangements might be made for an independent school to serve as a sixth-form centre.

The statement said independent schools had a wide range of sixth forms, which served a fifth of the sixth-form pupils in the country. They could provide for the rarer subjects.

Few districts need more than one teacher of Russian, and there are still shortages in physics and mathematics. Cooperation would enable sixth-form resources to be more widely shared, and could well be a starting point for wider cooperation.

The document said head teachers and staff in private schools should establish contact with their colleagues in main-

Couple accused of thefts from old people in home

From Our Correspondent
Norwich

A husband and wife who ran a county council old people's home stole money and property over a four-year period from residents, infirm and often confused in their care, in their home in Westfield, Swaffham, Norfolk, it was stated. His wife, Betty, 54, the former matron, is alleged to have stolen two handbags containing £9 from one of the residents.

Mr Allen, of Swanton Drive,

had much to offer the head teachers of independent schools told a conference in London to launch a statement, "which they hope will be the first to be made by independent schools".

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The document said head teachers and staff in private schools should establish contact with their colleagues in main-

schools. They should be ready to serve on local councils and on the governing bodies of state schools. They should invite teachers in maintained schools to serve on their governing bodies.

Mr. Roger Young, Principal of George Watson's College, Edinburgh, said independent schools supported the assisted place scheme under which central and local governments would take up places at independent schools on a wide geographic basis.

The policy statement said that the independent schools provided badly needed boarding places; they offered single-sex schools and an emphasis on religious education. They had helped to develop the curriculum and many of them were smaller schools at a time when to be small in education was becoming recognized as being beautiful.

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Few districts need more than one teacher of Russian, and there are still shortages

ERSEAS er's home to backing for Sadat hief quits to restart eneva peace talks

Robert Fisk

Jan 17—His support for President Sadat's efforts to reconvene the Middle East peace conference will come this week.

President Tito of Yugoslavia, whom Egyptians regard as a grand old man of the world, has also given his support.

The trial of Mr. Stakopoulos, who was

only surviving organiser

of the original Bundestag

of 1955, which con-

cluded with its wife

in Aswan for talks

with Egyptian President

on the Middle East and re-

lent the Soviet Union,

Yugoslav President

has expressed his belief that

Arabs should have it

in their state and the Egyp-

tian leader has added "immediate

and round meetings

between Arab leaders who want

the end of the Palestinian

this year.

A new Egyptian weekly

in October, which sup-

ports President Sadat, has

helped to pay for the

printing presses) this

arrives a 17-word article

in the paper, surrounded

by photographs of the non-

founding fathers: Presi-

dent Nasser and Nehru.

Aswan talks, however,

to reveal the current

Egypt's relations with

the Arab League.

Although the Arab

are now leaving

on President Tito's

in a Middle East settle-

ment, it is interesting to note

that the meeting was first

held in Egypt, as a discussion

between Soviet and Arab

countries.

It may be some time, how-

ever, on whether President

has persuaded the Rus-

sians to back him.

Mr. Stakopoulos, who was

not present at the meeting,

has agreed to meet him

in Geneva next month.

He will arrive in Cairo

on February 11, and

he will be welcomed by

President Sadat.

PARLIAMENT, January 17, 1977

Home Secretary hoping for early report on multiple killings: public inquiry not ruled out

House of Commons

Mr Martyn Rees, Home Secretary (Leeds, South, Lab), will publish the report which he has had from the Chief Inspector of Prisons. See also on security at Leicester Prison and in escort of prisoners to courts.

Mr Rees said this in a statement on the murder of four people in Derbyshire last week. He added, in reply to questions that a full, independent public inquiry had not been ruled out.

He said: It is a story of murder with tragic consequences for the Moran family. The House will wish to express its sympathy with Mrs Gillian Moran in the grievous loss which she has suffered.

I have received a preliminary report from the Governor of Leicester Prison and have instructed the Chief Inspector of the Prison Service to make an immediate inquiry into the security arrangements at the prison, and for the escort of prisoners to courts.

I have received a preliminary report from the Chief Constable of Derbyshire and as a result I have decided to publish the report, in the light of which I will consider whether further inquiries are necessary. It is my intention to publish the report of the Chief Inspector of the Prison Service.

Mr William Whitelaw, Deputy leader of the Opposition (Pembroke, Pembrokeshire, C)—The Opposition would like to associate itself with the expression of deep sympathy with Mrs Gillian Moran.

This is one of the most serious breakdowns in security arrangements affecting the police, public and the community since the war. There is deep and widespread concern about the handling of the people handled the search during those atrocious nights of terror.

When the inquiry is conducted, will the Home Secretary make the public report so that it can be debated in the House? So that we can allay the fears of many people in my constituency and constituencies near prisons but the fears in the minds of the public generally?

Mr Rees—Mr Swain has raised all the questions that are being answered. Let me try to put them all. I have seen a preliminary report which reinforces in my mind that they need answering.

The use of hired contract cars is not new but has gone on for a long time. With regard to the public inquiry, I will report from the chief inspector of prison service press reports, it is impossible to draw inferences which are unresolved. I have yet to receive a full enough report from the police. Speaking for myself and the Government, if

needs be a fully independent public inquiry is not ruled out. What I suggest is that we see what comes from the report, which I will have quickly.

Thomas Swain (North-East Derbyshire, Lab)—May I express deepest sympathy with the relatives of the bereaved family and with the two warders who were viciously stabbed by this beast of a man in the car. I should also pay a tribute to the prison officers who were working in arctic conditions during the last three days—conditions that have not prevailed in that area for years. No doubt if there were any findings they will come out in the inquiry.

Why was it that a man with 16 years known violent record was allowed out of prison with a knife and a gun? Why was he released to Chesterfield for a hearing on one of the most violent crimes, previously bodily harm and rape in a raid hired by the prison authorities?

There were there only two warders in the car and why was the prisoner handcuffed to only one, the other riding in the front seat? Any one who has been in handcuffs, I am sure, will understand that it is much easier to escape if only one handcuff is used. This is a very serious crime, indeed. Will the Home Secretary instruct that a public inquiry be held into it?

I met a deputation of constituents from the area this morning and they are disturbed. There is a lack of confidence—it appears quite rightly—in the security of the prison service and in the way the police have conducted any break-in in security at that particular incident.

One of the prison officers is quoted today as having said that they were unaware that this man had been violent. That could indicate a breakdown of communications within the prison service. We do not know, but it may go further than that and indicate a lack of coordination between the prison, the police and the courts. This must be fully investigated.

The transferring of prisoners by hired vehicles has gone on, on many years, and is apparently on the increase. Is the other aspect of this must be investigated as a matter of extreme urgency?

Mr Rees—These points will have to be answered and looked at. With regard to prison officers, including those who have been in Northern Ireland, I know well enough what an excellent job I and others did and will recover soon. There must be inquiries into the matters raised.

Mr Peter Rost (South-East Derbyshire, C)—The statement of a full inquiry will bring a great deal of comfort to the people in Derbyshire.

They have been particularly concerned not only by the violence of the crimes but also by the unfortunate incidents involving security officers in police and the feeling of uncertainty that these people should be satisfied.

Will the inquiry look into these matters?

Mr Rees—I think it right that we receive a full enough report which reinforces in my mind that they need answering.

The use of hired contract cars is not new but has gone on for a long time. With regard to the public inquiry, I will report from the chief inspector of prison service press reports, it is impossible to draw inferences which are unresolved. I have yet to receive a full enough report from the police. Speaking for myself and the Government, if

suggested. Let us look at it. It is a terrible crime, terrible for the families and worrying for the people in the area and on behalf of the Government I want to make sure that the community knows the full facts.

Mr Philip Whitehead (Derby, North, Lab)—Is Mr Rees able to say from reports already received whether the prisoner was searched before he entered Leicester prison on remand or when sent for the trial and whether that was a search of the village on the Thursday?

Mr Rees—These are important matters that need to be answered. They are not answered in the way that I would then we must look at it again.

Mr James Marshall (Leicester, South, Lab)—As Leicester prison, is in my constituency, I would like the Home Secretary to pay tribute to the prison officers, both of whom were seriously injured in the incident last Wednesday.

On a recent visit to the prison I was much impressed by all the staff, from the governor down. The House ought not to jump to too hasty conclusions about any break-in in security at that particular incident.

One of the prison officers is quoted today as having said that they were aware that this man had been violent. That could indicate a breakdown of communications within the prison service. We do not know, but it may go further than that and indicate a lack of coordination between the prison, the police and the courts. This must be fully investigated.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C)—This is an extremely serious matter. When inquiries can be fairly protracted, in the case of such a serious breach of discipline, it affects the morale of the prison officers.

I met a deputation of constituents from the area this morning and they are disturbed. There is a lack of confidence—they are disturbed. There is a lack of confidence—it appears quite rightly—in the security of the prison service and in the way the police have conducted any break-in in security at that particular incident.

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Mr Roderick MacFarquhar (Belper, Lab)—Could some preliminary suggestions be made to officers of the prison service, particularly on the use of one handcuff and the question of hired cars?

Mr Rees—I have taken steps in regard to handcuffs. On contract cars, what matters is the type of person who is to be conveyed in this way.

Mr Whitelaw—The questions which we have had this afternoon make it abundantly clear that there are many matters of much wider concern than simply this incident. We must take a look at the whole force. It affects the whole country and the case for an important public inquiry of a major order is all the stronger.

Mr Rees—I am not sure until I have seen the full report of the actual events. If it were to be a breakdown in rules and arrangements which are normally first rate and work everywhere else it would be a better basis for a public inquiry.

Mr Rees—They have been particularly concerned not only by the violence of the crimes but also by the unfortunate incidents involving security officers in police and the feeling of uncertainty that these people should be satisfied. Will the inquiry look into these matters?

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The use of hired contract cars is not new but has gone on for a long time. With regard to the public inquiry, I will report from the chief inspector of prison service press reports, it is impossible to draw inferences which are unresolved. I have yet to receive a full enough report from the police. Speaking for myself and the Government, if

we look at it. It is a terrible crime, terrible for the families and worrying for the people in the area and on behalf of the Government I want to make sure that the community knows the full facts.

Mr Philip Whitehead (Derby, North, Lab)—Is Mr Rees able to say from reports already received whether the prisoner was searched before he entered Leicester prison on remand or when sent for the trial and whether that was a search of the village on the Thursday?

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Mr James Marshall (Leicester, South, Lab)—As Leicester prison, is in my constituency, I would like the Home Secretary to pay tribute to the prison officers, both of whom were seriously injured in the incident last Wednesday.

On a recent visit to the prison I was much impressed by all the staff, from the governor down. The House ought not to jump to too hasty conclusions about any break-in in security at that particular incident.

One of the prison officers is quoted today as having said that they were aware that this man had been violent. That could indicate a breakdown of communications within the prison service. We do not know, but it may go further than that and indicate a lack of coordination between the prison, the police and the courts. This must be fully investigated.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C)—This is an extremely serious matter. When inquiries can be fairly protracted, in the case of such a serious breach of discipline, it affects the morale of the prison officers.

I met a deputation of constituents from the area this morning and they are disturbed. There is a lack of confidence—they are disturbed. There is a lack of confidence—it appears quite rightly—in the security of the prison service and in the way the police have conducted any break-in in security at that particular incident.

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Mr Roderick MacFarquhar (Belper, Lab)—Could some preliminary suggestions be made to officers of the prison service, particularly on the use of one handcuff and the question of hired cars?

Mr Rees—I have taken steps in regard to handcuffs. On contract cars, what matters is the type of person who is to be conveyed in this way.

Mr Whitelaw—The questions which we have had this afternoon make it abundantly clear that there are many matters of much wider concern than simply this incident. We must take a look at the whole force. It affects the whole country and the case for an important public inquiry of a major order is all the stronger.

Mr Rees—I am not sure until I have seen the full report of the actual events. If it were to be a breakdown in rules and arrangements which are normally first rate and work everywhere else it would be a better basis for a public inquiry.

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THE ARTS

The Winslow Boy
BBC 1

Stanley Reynolds

The 1948 film version of *The Winslow Boy*, a fairly regular rerun on television, was direct, sombre, with right triumphing in the end, but with none of the comedy of Cedric Messina's *Play of the Month* provision of Terence Rattigan's play on BBC 1 on Sunday.

At times Mr Rattigan was positively Shavian in his play and with the elegant Alan Baddeley, Sir Robert Morison, the adroit and Michelle Dotrice as Catherine Winslow, the beautiful suffragette daughter of the house; Mr Rattigan, Mr Messina, and David Gates, the director, had a perfect pair.

Indeed, there seemed to be the makings of a GBS soap opera in their relationship. You wanted so much for them to fall in love, for an episode we could switch on next week, that you quite forgot the Winslow boy himself, the naval cadet who was wrongly accused of forging a five-shilling postal order.

Cedric Messina's return to the original and there is no need to praise Mr Rattigan's skill at handtoeing a play. Yet,

as pleasant as pleasing as the play was, the old complaints about Mr Rattigan's work still hold true. That is, where are the villains, the bad guys?

True, Mrs Winslow's beau ilted her because of the scandal the case was causing. That was a slight dash of bitters in a sweet cup.

Outside, the faceless authority which had branded the Winslow boy as a thief was refusing him a fair trial. This authoritarianism, however, never showed its face. It was mentioned only in passing. The outcome, the happy ending, was never in doubt.

If Mr Rattigan was not after

faceless authority, what then

was he aiming at? He was, I think, simply aiming to please

and that, in spite of the fine

acting and production is not enough for anyone, save Mr Rattigan's Aunt Edna.

London debut

Bosun's *Indianisches Tagebuch* is not exactly standard recital fare and Martin Berkowitz is to be commended for including it in a debut programme. The four movements from a sophisticated commentary on the supposedly noble savage, elegantly coiffed indians being spun out by the Red Indian indians that Bismarck collected during American travels. The whole possesses a sort of wry self-conscious whimsy, and Mr Berkowitz has fun with it in an apt way.

Mr Berkowitz's *Dumke Op. 59*, a developmental single-movement study of "Robust Village Scene", is fairly similar though *Tanzen und Tanzen*, no doubt, set closer to the peasant than Bismarck's. These fireworks also contain a few small surprises, but this same economy is turned to a much lighter piece in *Brahms's Intermezzo*, which includes a brief of folk music collected by a young man of unusually polished education. At the beginning of nineteenth-century virtuosity, this determination outshines the best of the Brahms's *Intermezzo* descendants. A gay Mr Berkowitz has his feet secure in these two studies.

There also were serious doubts over the view of Chopin's *Benedictus* in *Sonata No. 2*, where rhythmic freedom tended to sacrifice and reduce some to be underplayed. There were instances of tempo and rhythm in *The Bach-Braun Chaconne* were better, and Berkowitz certainly brought dignity and gravitas onto the stage, even if some of the detail was unconvincing.

Berkowitz's most successful work, however, is the film. The *Arabell* he made with a grant from the Arts Council, like the majority of visual art, was hot, fiery, and another

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Mark Harrison

SPRING ISLAMIC SALES

Six new major auction records were achieved in Sotheby's second week of sales of Islamic works of art.

The sales, which realised £1,260,000, included carpets, mosaics, miniatures, lacquer, ceramics, glass, metalwork, arms and armour and other works of art; paintings, watercolours and photographs of Middle Eastern subjects; also books of Islamic interest.

The closing date for submission of property to the next specialised series of Islamic Sales, which will take place in the Spring, is 9th February, 1977.

Enquiries for Antiquities should be made to Felicity Nicholson.

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A Gold and enamel Cufflinks from
6.5 cm high, sold for a world auction
record price of £2,000.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

Mr Breakwell's diary

Paul Overy

Two exhibitions now at the Arnolfini, Bristol, make an instructive comparison. Both artists have challenged the traditional means the painter has used for centuries, up to and including much of the avant-garde art of the early twentieth century, applied to a rectangular canvas on board.

Stephen Buckley still makes what are clearly recognizable as paintings, even though they may consist of several canvases stuck together in various ways, or appear to be painted on the back of a normal canvas with the "stretcher" revealed rather than concealed.

There is some doubt whether Ian Breakwell should be considered an artist at all. By that I do not intend an insult, but to suggest that he could equally well be considered as a writer or film-maker. A selection from his Diaries has just been published and last year completed a remarkable film *The Journey*—the most complex of several films he has worked on. He has also organized happenings and performances.

Yet it is right, I think, to regard Breakwell as an artist. His Diaries consist almost invariably of observed event or confrontation, but the image created is a strongly visual one. When read in cold print, continuously, as in *Diary Extracts 1968-1976* (Midland Group, Nottingham £1.50), they can appear a bit monotonous. They work much better in the pages of the Diary itself, where they are often combined with visual images (usually photographs or photocopies). This is how they are shown at the Arnolfini. Breakwell's Diaries are made in large, page-a-day, desk diaries. He has been keeping them for over 10 years. More recently he has tended to work on a page each day. In other years his works more spasmodically.

Sometimes they are completed in retrospect: "eg. I may make notes, sketches, negatives, etc in February, which are worked on and finally re-read in July."

The observed events which are recorded (usually in writing) in the Diaries are, presumably, particular to these days. But an event or an image may bring back a memory, and that is sometimes incorporated into the work for that particular day. A diary is, by its very nature, personal. It becomes art if the artist can give the personal observation a general meaning and significance. As a combination of visual and verbal observation, association, juxtaposition, collage, Breakwell's Diaries achieve the generality of art. His talent is essentially that of montage, the ability to cut and join the pieces of the Diary itself, where they are often combined with visual images (usually photographs or photocopies).

Breakwell's most successful work is, however, the film. The *Arabell* he made with a grant from the Arts Council, like the majority of visual art, was hot, fiery, and another

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There also were serious doubts over the view of Chopin's *Benedictus* in *Sonata No. 2*, where rhythmic freedom tended to sacrifice and reduce some to be underplayed. There were instances of tempo and rhythm in *The Bach-Braun Chaconne* were better, and Berkowitz certainly brought dignity and gravitas onto the stage, even if some of the detail was unconvincing.

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OIL PAINTINGS

TUES., JAN. 25, 11 a.m.
ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL
FURNITURE, WORKS OF ART, CARPETS

TUES., JAN. 25, 12.30 p.m.
WINE

TUES., JAN. 25 at 11 and 2.30 p.m.
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WORKS OF ART, CARPETS

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Why it is worthwhile being wary when it comes to buying prints

"We are discovered and interrupted Anna Maria; let us collect our property—and other people's—and depart at once." Samuel Whiskers may have been an extreme case, but there is an element of the collector in all of us, it survives in Russia, and even one suspect in the inhabitants of the New China. Some people hoard Old Master paintings, others walking sticks or seaside souvenirs. But at what level we indulge our acquisitiveness, there are snare laid for the unwary.

The market in less expensive prints—say under £200—and in limited editions and artist's proofs may be taken as typical. Prints depend on rarity and condition as well as on quality for their value, which is a long-winded way of saying collectability, and it is still possible to buy well and cheaply both among the Old Masters and the more modern artists. Some of the great British printmakers of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in particular seem undervalued today.

Robin Garrod of Lancashire Court, W1, off Bond Street, where he also has a good illustration on a

calendar. Although they are very popular at the moment, one wonders whether they will ultimately hold their value.

Limited edition, too, has become something of a portmanteau phrase. It can mean a signed and numbered edition, usually limited to fewer than one hundred copies, produced by the artist himself before the publication of a commercial edition. However, in recent years there have been a number of widely advertised offerings of modern prints in limited editions of a thousand or so. These need to be looked at very carefully. Often they seem to be produced after the artist's death from old and much used plates. An edition of this size is nearly on a par with Monty Python's medallions, which were strictly limited to the number we can actually sell." It is much better to go to a firm such as Christie's Contemporary Art, of Albemarle St, W1, who commission their realistically limited editions directly from the artists.

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2 Patrick Seale Gallery

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May — "Suzi Malin"
June — "Les Quatres de Grasse"
July — "Arl. Sophie Tauber, Magritte,
Sonya de Launay, 1940-1943."
November — Sophie Tauber—Arl.
Works on paper 1916-1943.
December — Special Exhibition.

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Setting the stage

continued from previous page
and sections of the Nigerian press denounced President Senghor as a black Frenchman and worse. President Senghor joined in by referring to Nigeria's use of oil as "a big stick to beat small countries, and dismissing the Nigerian Government as having "not many cultural qualities". However, his efforts to set up an alternative festival fell on stony ground; even in other francophone countries the response was poor.

The Nigerians, realizing that President Senghor would like to back down, sent the dramatist poet Wole Soyinka to Dakar to make peace.

Even now it is impossible to calculate what the total cost will be to Nigeria, except that it will run into tens of millions of Naira. It is true that the National Theatre, the special housing, the roads and the hotel accommodation will continue afterwards, but an inquiry into aspects of financing Festac has shown that opportunities for diversion of funds increased as the urgency to complete projects grew.

Thus the opulent Bulgerian-designed National Theatre was found by the ministry to represent a financial commitment for the Government by the end of 1975 of N77.5m because of short cuts in procedures.

Hazy estimates and a combination of inefficiency and speculation. However, relatively small amounts were ordered to be returned by leading figures involved.

The full report has not yet been published.

The streamlining of the festival, and the introduction of improved planning by the new commissioner, Commander O. P. Finges, did nothing to stop the deterioration in relations with the Senegalese. The reasons were complex.

Senegal seemed to have taken on itself the task of voicing discontents about Nigeria's size and wealth; early in 1976 Senegal and Nigeria were supporting different sides in Angola. There were also personality differences arising in part from the different cultural legacies of the French and British.

But the *causes beli* was Senegal's objection to the participation of Arab and African countries in the colloquium on black civilization and education.

The Nigerian argument was based on the introduction of "African" into the festival's title, because it did not wish to be seen dividing the Organization of African Unity.

Senegal's announcement of a boycott heralded an infanticide war of words, in which revealing reflexes surfaced.

Le Soleil of Dakar wrote of Nigeria's "Fashoda spirit", while the *Soweto* seemed to have taken on itself the task of voicing discontents about Nigeria's size and wealth; early in 1976 Senegal and Nigeria were supporting different sides in Angola. There were also personality differences arising in part from the different cultural legacies of the French and British.

Whatever the political tenor of the proceedings, one has to see it as an event with serious political implications. Festac has now begun. It cannot fail to be a large and reasonably representative celebration of black culture from Papua New Guinea to Bolivia, 10 fruitful years after Dakar.

Despite fears that Nigerian style chaos may take over, it should be a memorable 25 days, worth all the delay and revealing reflexes surfaced.

In his basic posture he carries his weight on the earth, his knees are ever-worth suffering a Lagos traffic jam or two.

Some of the cultural activities included in the festival are discussed on this and the next two pages

DANCE

They got earthy rhythm

by Peggy Harper

Festac is staging dances from the black and African cultures of today. There will be dances evolved through generations to express the traditions of indigenous cultures and dances designed by choreographers for the contemporary dance.

However, his efforts to set up an alternative festival fell on stony ground; even in other francophone countries the response was poor.

The Nigerians, realizing that President Senghor would like to back down,

sent the dramatist poet Wole

Soyinka to Dakar to make peace.

The cracks were plastered over and Senegal seems to have accepted Arab participation.

Le Soleil, retorted a "taste of ashes"; but it is far from clear what the Arab participation will be.

The cultural links across the Sahara are historic and manifold, but most Arab African governments, not to mention those that straddle the desert, like Sudan and Mauritania, would probably prefer not to dwell officially on black civilization and education.

Thus the Nigerians suspect the Senegalese of indirectly voicing other apprehensions — that Lagos was going to be too political, especially since the Ghanians are to be there in force.

President Senghor has never quite been able to digest some of the radical implications of neocolonialism, a concept that was actually born in the brutal racial vortex of the Caribbean in Haiti, and was taken up eloquently by the Martiniquais Aimé Césaire. The President popularized it and made it his own, and in the process altered it (some would say watered it down) with Tchad de Chardin's theories of the "civilization of the universal".

The political content none the less remains for those who care to see it: translated into English it becomes the "African personality" of Kwame Nkrumah, the "black power" of the United States, the "black consciousness" of Soweto.

Whatever the political tenor of the proceedings, one has to see it as an event with serious political implications. Festac has now begun.

It cannot fail to be a large and reasonably representative celebration of black culture from Papua New Guinea to Bolivia, 10 fruitful years after Dakar.

Despite fears that Nigerian style chaos may take over, it should be a memorable 25 days, worth all the delay and revealing reflexes surfaced.

In his basic posture he carries his weight on the earth, his knees are ever-worth suffering a Lagos traffic

bending springs, his back rises strong and straight from the base of his spine up to the neck, may forfeit the full respect of his subjects. The fetish priestesses of the Ga and the Yoruba priests who serve Sango, the god of Thunder, dance as an integral part of their office. Their gestures speak more vividly than words.

There are a few clearly recognizable elements to be found in dance throughout the continent, some of the Saharan. They are schooled in styles of Asian dance but bear little relation to the styles traditional to the

Dancers express their ideas, attitudes and emotions by creating spatial and temporal patterns of movement, which merge in performance.

The endless variety of dance styles in the world are distinguished by two main factors: dances in which specific patterns are emphasized and those in which the focus lies on patterns based on time elements.

Analysis of dance form reveals two basic spatial elements. The floor pattern marks the progress of the dances from A to B, or the lack of progress as in the case of the Ijaw women performing the Iwogun, one of the most elaborate space-bound in his efforts to reach maturity.

Practices in African dance accept the weight of his body in rhythmic patterns of movement which express his close relation with the earth, in contrast to a western dancer, who is determinedly space-bound in his efforts to reach maturity.

Practices in African dance lies in the rhythmic discipline with which the dancer follows the dictates of the leading musical instrument. His ability is assessed on his skill to grasp the changes and nuances of the rhythm.

Within a framework of common basic elements there is an endless variety of form centring on the musical rhythm, which may develop a complexity requiring a dancer to master three distinct rhythms simultaneously. The spatial shapes in African dance emerge from the rhythm to create a sculptural impression of movement in which the dancer is not concerned with holding a series of exactly located positions but rather with moving through positions which are motivated by the dramatic intention of the dancer.

The formal emphasis in African dance is on the element of rhythm. An African dance starts with a repetitive percussive pulse which develops into a rhythm of sav, foot, shoulder or pelvic beats wedded to the musical rhythms of the accompanying orchestra. As a dancer gives his weight to the rhythmic pulse of the dance his movements repeatedly return to the earth, towards which his postures, gestures and often his attention is directed.

Every member of an indigenous rural community belongs to a religious society, an age grade, possibly a working guild or a dance club, each with its specific styles of dance expressing the qualities expected of the group by their community.

Dance is a general element of ritual celebration and regal ceremony. An Ashanti ruler in Ghana dances the

authorities of his leadership and should he lack the necessary skill, may forfeit the choice of dances.

A live tradition is never static and dances have continually changed to incorporate new elements in their society, under the guidance of talented artists. Over the last decade these changes have been accelerated by the organization of civic arts festivals as a popular feature of urban life, and the promotion of national companies of neo-traditional dance to tour the world.

Many dance leaders are skilled in tailoring dances for unfamiliar audiences. Some styles are transformed to attain theatrical heights by finding a new role in an urban setting with the accent on entertainment as in the Efolou dance of the Ijaw. This applies to team dancing in which identifies age groups in cultures throughout Africa.

At the Nigerian rehearsals for Festac in 1974 it became obvious that ritual dances, which are rooted in the sacrificial rites of communal festivals, seldom survive the abrupt change of role to entertainer-cum-cultural ambassador.

Several universities in West Africa sponsor professional theatre companies with a mandate for creative work in the full range of performing arts. That has encouraged experiment in dance drama using traditional techniques to convey a dramatic situation.

Choreographers combine movement from a wide range of cultures, without reference to their origin, as a springboard for creating theatrical dance forms.

Myths and legends provide rich themes for these works which do not rule out the use of words or songs in a supportive role, as the strict specialization of theatre arts is foreign to an African audience.

The Festac theatre is mounting works in the tradition of the Odizi Saga of the Ijaws or the spectacular Kwagh-hi story-telling dramatizations of the Ibo, which have long combined the deeply significant with delightfully entertainment as a feature of village life.

Visitors will trace the transitions from the communal arts to the creations of the individual: from tradition through neo-tradition to the contemporary arts.

The author is senior research fellow, Department of Dramatic Arts, and choreographer to the University of Ife theatre, Nigeria.



A Tutsi dancer of Rwanda.

MUSIC

The pulse of life

by Laz Nnanyelu Ekwueme

One of the strongest features of African music, in comparison with the music of the West, is its functionalism. Music plays a very significant role in the social life of the black man in Africa as well as the New World.

Music is present at the birth of a child in African and West Indian societies as the announcement is greeted with singing and dancing. It is ever-present in children's games and features in traditional folk tales in Africa, Haiti, Jamaica and the southern states of the United States.

The importance of music for the working black man cannot be exaggerated. In sugar-cane plantations in the West Indies, on cotton farms, railways or prison chain gangs in the United States, in the mines of South Africa or on ships at sea, music has been the means by which the black man has endured and survived the ordeals of years of slavery, forced labour and colonialism.

Music is indispensable in religious worship, whether it be of Shango in Nigeria, Trinidad or Brazil, Voodoo (Vodun) in Dahomey, Togo or Haiti, Islam in Tanzania, Niger or Mali, or Christianity in South Africa, Zaire, Nigeria among the blacks of the United States.

Music goes with healing. It is a common belief among many black communities that a physical ailment is a result of a moral offence or else the act of malevolent forces. In either case spiritual atonement has to be made involving the use of music.

Wake-keeping and funeral rites are prolonged affairs in Africa and among black communities in the New World. Music is ever-present at such rites.

There are many unifying theoretic features in African music, in the features of the music of the black peoples of Africa and the New World. Melodic lines (following the tonal inflections of African singing, especially in the north, no doubt stem from the deep influence of Islam).

The pentatonic scale is prominent in Zulu songs, Yoruba songs and many Negro spirituals and negro music according to Steven. Some notes of the major scale in African folk tunes are replicated in the blue notes of American blues and jazz.

Characteristic features of harmony include the parallel (organum style) singing of Africa and the New World, as well as the pedal drone on the lowest part, sometimes over an extended period.

Contemporary African music well known in all black in many cases now employs western diatonic scales.

Western formal education in music as well as in other branches of African cultural expression has replaced the customary oral tradition and semi-formal apprenticeship.

Reading and writing have given rise to notation as a means by which Africans attempt to preserve and promote their traditional music as well as new compositions.

Urbanization, technological and economic developments have been some of the strongest of these factors.

While the colonial experience was responsible for bringing the African in very close contact with western civilization and sense of values, the slave trade attempted to wipe out altogether any trace of African civilization and cultural practice. Both forces succeeded in imposing western ideas and cultural practices on the black man and gave him an inferiority complex as a man with no cultural roots.

Islam has deeply influenced the lives of many Africans. Muslim and oriental ways of life have been so absorbed by many black African peoples that in many cases it is impossible to distinguish between the original black cultural ways and those which have been introduced as part of Islamic practice.

In the area of music it is to be suspected that many instruments of the bowed type — the violin and fiddle — and the Arabian guitar, which is popular in Tanzania, may have come more widely into use as a result of Islam and other oriental influences.

Kontingon, a string instrument and some other forms of African singing, especially in the north, no doubt stem from the deep influence of Islam.

Christianity introduced metric translations into African languages, sung to the same tunes with which they are associated in Europe. Mbiti has already been written about the inadequacy of this practice which, among other things, often resulted in misleading meanings being given to African words.

The spirit of jazz, which is rooted in African music, has returned to Africa with new harmony and instrumentation; the electric guitar, samba, blues, rock and roll, etc., have found a happy home in Africa coexisting with traditional drums, rattles, shakers, bells and gongs.

A popular music which drives in East Africa uses more string instruments than bands on the west coast, which are more inclined to use brass. There is a definite Latin sound in the music of Central and East Africa.

The guitar sound of this type of popular music, which in West Africa is branded "Gongo music", shows much better tuning (in the West

European sense) than style contemporary does Highlife music of West African origin.

Apure, from the dual cultural expression of contemporary African folk music, the We beer and wine are sold have been noted as become spots for hearing calypso. Steel b

later development, all sorts of popular calypso d full symphonies.

music known by such various names as Zulu jive, South African jazz, and the local umgangashipha has made great international impact.

Not only has it produced great musicals such as King Kong, Kwa Zulu and Ipi Tombe, but it has also given the world such internationally known artists as Miriam Makeba, Hugh Masekela, Todd Mashida, Hilda Thobakhe and Thandi Nkosi.

Afro-rock is a term frequently used in contemporary African music. Manu Dibango, Osibisa, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, and Victor Uwaifo are internationally famous in this new brand of African soul music. Each exponent has his own sound, but the general principle is the employment of western and jazz instruments and harmonic principles in combination with some African percussion in a dance rhythm that treats African musical materials in American soul music style.

Contemporary African music is not all pop, however. A school of art music has filtered down to the local folk music of the region, so much so that even roadside bars where locally brewed beer and wine are sold have become spots for hearing calypso. Steel b

later development, all sorts of popular calypso d full symphonies.

music the West. It recently taken a h band that has been popular in Africa a

the United States of America, been known as birthplace of blaxploitation, the secular parts of spiritu

Gospel music whi thrived among black slaves in the United States during the Civil War.

In addition to the jar styles of music American and West African race mix into western art music during internatinal performances.

More than African pop, art musician New World have been created by contemporary experimental techniques.

Music in Africa black world today se same functional roles it has always had. It has retained man vibrant qualities unique characterisitic reference to form, rhythm, idiom, and general.

Through their experiments at composition in the western

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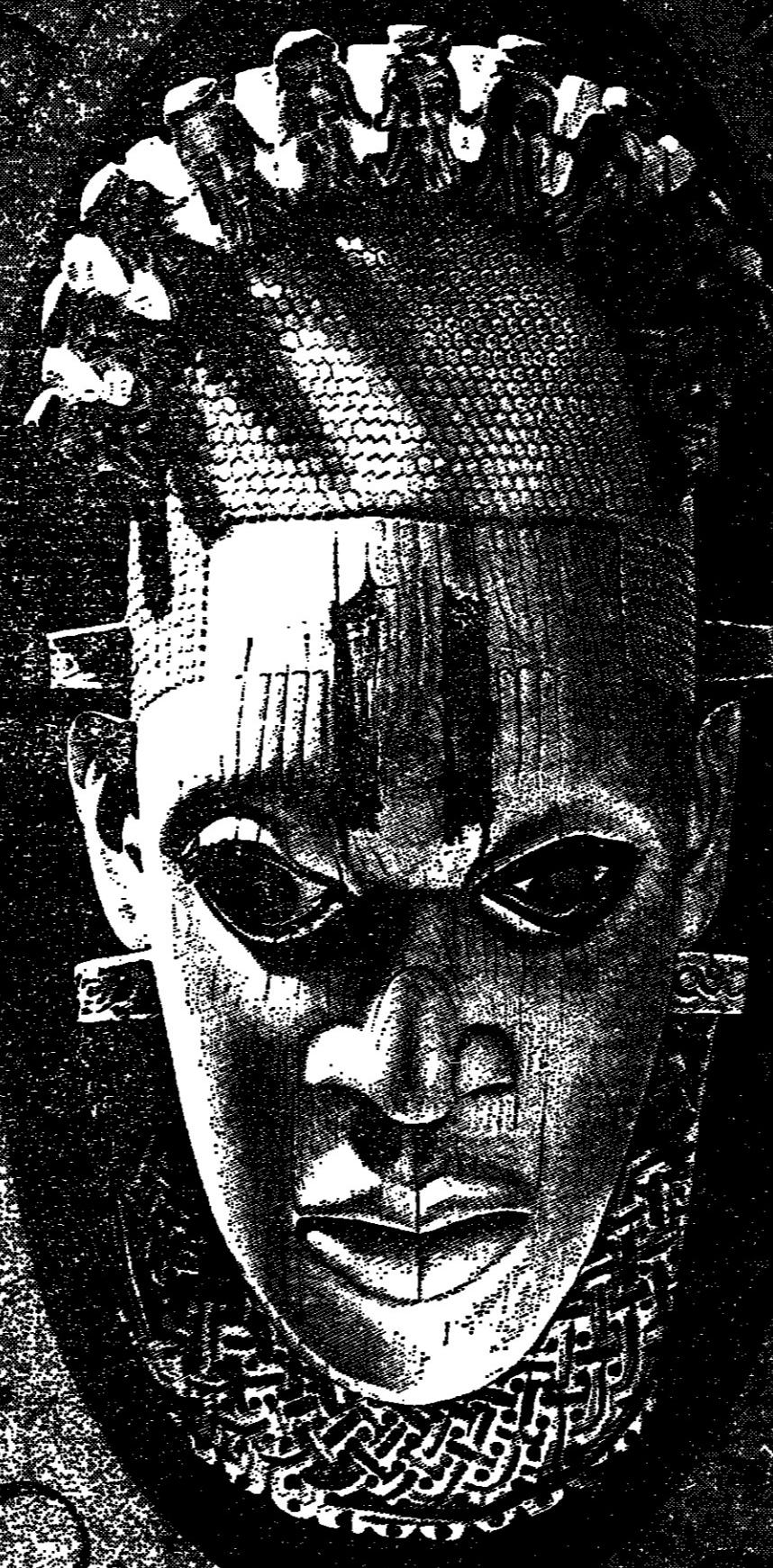
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'77



**NIGERIA
LAGOS · KADUNA
15th JANUARY - 12th FEBRUARY 1977**

Onerous role as host and participant

by Michael Crowder

Judged both within and outside the country by the quality of the facilities and organization it provides.

Nigeria occupies a special and very onerous position in the second festival of that country.

As such its contribution to the festival is on a very different and much larger scale than that of the other countries participating.

First of all Nigeria is providing the services for a festival conceived on a scale that makes the Dakar festival look like a country fete by comparison. However important Nigeria's artistic contribution to the festival may be, its success will be largely

judged both within and outside the country by the quality of the facilities and organization it provides.

Nigeria is making a second, and exceptional contribution to the festival in that fringe events that are taking place in Lagos are part of the postponement of the festival.

The National Theatre, which can seat 5,000, has ancillary facilities of a cinema, conference halls and seminar rooms, exhibition galleries and offices for the festival secretariat. The theatre is the nerve centre of the festival where nearly all the official events, including the colouquium on black civilization and education, are taking place.

Based on a Bulgarian prototype, and indeed built by the Bulgarians, the National

Theatre, with its striking profile, will be as much a permanent memorial to the festival for Lagosians as for Music Dynamique was for the Dakarians.

The festival village, located on the new expressway from Lagos to Kaduna, which gives it quick access to the National Theatre in an otherwise traffic-jammed Lagos, is housing official participants in the festival in every type of low-cost apartment blocks to elegant detached houses. For while Dakar was just able to cope with visitors and participants within its available hotel and school dormitory space in 1966, Lagos hotel accommodation is as scarce as in other oil-boom city Teheran.

Appeals have been made to Nigerian families to offer accommodation to visitors to take up the expected overflow from hotels, while the University of Lagos has scheduled its vacation for the festival so that its hostel accommodation can be released. After the festival the village will be available to Lagosians as low-cost housing, helping to relieve the acute accommodation problem of one of the fastest growing cities in the world.

Apart from providing the facilities for the festival, Nigeria has had to recruit and train an army of officials ranging from lighting technicians able to handle the complex dimmer boards of the National Theatre, to bilingual hostesses in the burgeoning oil economy where every skill, including that of the driver and the waiter, is at a premium, this has been a daunting task for the organizers.

Estimates of the number of visitors who will come to Lagos for the festival vary. What is certain is that, as at present, not all of them will be able to see every official dramatic event in the festival. Conscious of this problem, Nigeria is staging several big spectacles outside the official framework of its national participation that can be seen by all who wish to do so.

In Lagos a regatta of 2,000 boats drawn from eight of the 19 states of the federation will pass along the picturesquely-named Five Coves Creek. Mingled together in a variety of traditional craft, all gaily decked for the occasion, will be fishermen from the Niger and selected after a year's exhaustive state-by-state inventory of the country's chirographic resources. At the Nigerian Museum a

No less spectacular will be special exhibition of 2,000 Decca records of songs by Joy Nwosu, the versatile young Nigerian singer, entitled *Years of Nigeria's Art, History and Culture* is being organized.

Apart from the official festival there will be an unofficial one of plays, films, folk operas and exhibitions, specially mounted to take advantage of the presence of international audience and staged in the normal course of events for Lagosians. And every night those who have caught the festival mood can dance in one of the nightclubs to be found in almost every corner of the city to the now traditional Highlife or the more recent Afro-rock.

The horses and riders, caparisoned in a variety of costumes and trappings, will be led by their traditional rulers and accompanied by dancers, drummers, musicians and acrobats. As a display of traditional pageantry the durbars of northern Nigeria have no equal in black Africa.

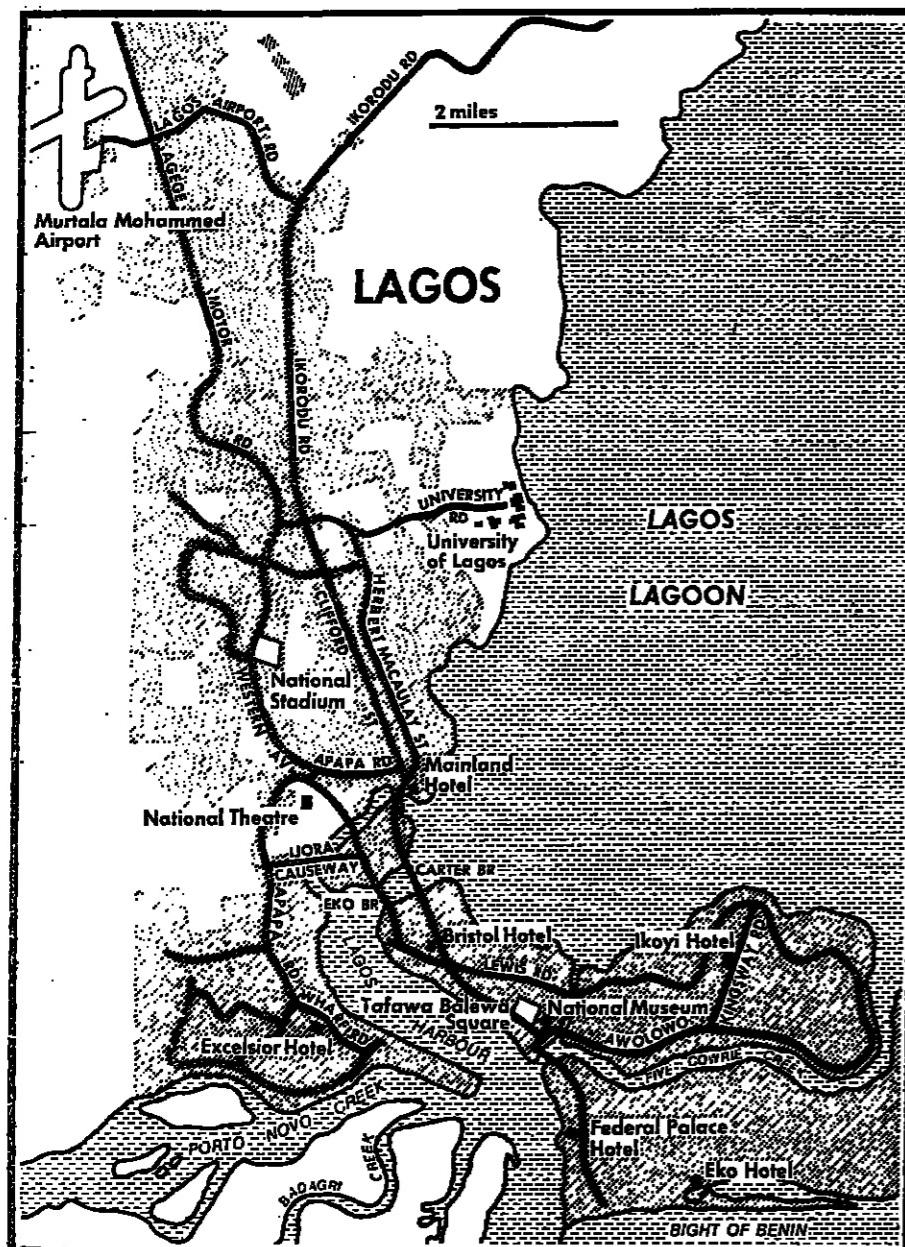
Visitors prepared to strike farther afield than Kaduna can attend the famous Ijegun fishing festival in the far north-west of Nigeria or the Ondoa festival, being sponsored by the Rivers State Government in Port Harcourt. In the festival capital itself, there will be regular displays of traditional dances drawn from the 19 states of the federation and selected after a year's result of private initiative: Longman and the University of Lagos have published a symposium on the city of Lagos; Mobil in association with Nelson has produced a beautifully illustrated volume on *The Living Culture of Nigeria*, while all

Nigeria's major presentation will be one record of songs by Joy Nwosu, a musical play by the prolific young Nigerian singer, entitled *Azania* — a tribute to the Wright Ogunyemi based on the faerie novel *Forest of a Thousand* by the Yoruba novelist D. O. Fagunwa.

As far as its participation in the festival itself is concerned, Nigeria, with the largest black population of any country, is treated on the same basis as The Gambia and Gabon. With so rich and diverse a traditional cultural heritage, and such variety and talent among its contemporary artists and writers selection for the various events has been extremely difficult.

Two important films are being shown in Nigeria for the first time, *Shehu Umar*, on the novel by Prime Minister of Sir Abubakar Balewa, and *Os Hausa*, the linguist of much of the *n* Nigeria.

The second, *Owa Nogbosi*, based on by Oba Rotimi, is in view of Nigeria's request for from the British M the Benin ivory mask which is the symbol, for it con defeat and exile of independent Oba of the British, who row and looted treasures, including



Map of Lagos showing the venues of main events.

The articles in the following section of this report examine artistic and cultural progress in some black communities represented at the festival

Brazil: example of ambivalence

by Jan Rocha

Brazil's contribution to the Lagos black arts festival is a good example of the country's ambivalent attitude to its population of African descent. While the United States and the combined Caribbean countries are easily sending over large contingents, Brazil, the single country in the western hemisphere with the largest population of African descent—at least half the 110 million Brazilians are black or coloured—is sending a mere handful of participants.

Almost the entire Brazilian art is concentrated in one area—plastic arts. The work of 14 artists are on show in an exhibition, the Impact of African Culture in Brazil. But the official hand-out admits:

"They do not always present themes of African or Negro origin, although they always express the high level of the Negro element's contribution to the plastic arts in Brazil."

Such is the case of Francisco Riquiba Guarani, 90 years old, who has spent his life carving the ornate figureheads of sailing boats that ply up and down the São Francisco river; or of the reproduction of the works of Brazil's most famous sculptor of the baroque era, Aleijadinho, a mulete crippled by leprosy who filled the eighteenth-century churches of Minas Gerais with dramatic carvings of Christ, prophets, saints and angels.

Manoel da Costa Athaide, another eighteenth-century artist, on show at Lagos, painted black angels and saints. The works of two white artists have been included. The sculptor Carybé from Salvador was specially invited by the Nigerian Government and 27 of his *Orixas* (Afro-Brazilian cult gods) sculptured in wood are being shown.

The other is one of Brazil's greatest painters, the late Cândido Portinari, who featured the Negro in many of his paintings. The Brazilian pavilion also includes exhibitions on aspects of the African in Brazil.

Among Brazilian contributions to the colloquium in Fernando Augusto de Albuquerque Mourão's paper on Africa and the formation of Brazilian thinking: the role of education.

In the music section, Brazil has two entries. One is singer Gilberto Gil, who says he would have gone to Lagos anyway because I have great desire to intensify my cultural links with Africa, to make them physical". Like the sculptor, Carybé Gil's inspiration is in the African Brazilian cult; his songs include "Janss" and "Baba Alpola", both Candomblé gods.

In the dance section, Brazil has entries in the ritual and contemporary dance categories. Among the three films entered, two are features and the third is a documentary on the soccer superstar Pelé, considered by many black Brazilians as an Uncle Tom because he refuses to admit the existence of racial prejudice in Brazil.

Black artists and sociologists made many suggestions for other entries: a choir with a repertory of Afro-Brazilian music, a selection of young black poets and writers, documents on the existence of a black press in São Paulo in the first part of this century, papers on the independence movements in Brazil. The Negro Intelligentsia in São Paulo, and studies on slavery. However they were rejected.

There is a belief in these circles that there is not much interest in encouraging manifestations of Afro-Brazilian culture because

they run contrary to the and missions has made its black sociologists for pre-empting military government in way to Brasília. Brazil's right wing military government even stuck its neck right and our and recognized the MPLA government as good-natured. The film, based on fact, tells the story of a slave girl who achieved her extraordinary sexual prowess.

Second, the emancipation of Portuguese-speaking countries like Angola and Mozambique has struck a chord among Brazilians of African descent. Seeing their black leaders moving on equal terms with other world leaders, how can Brazilian blacks not feel impotent about their own inferior position in Brazilian society?

This sort of feeling has not yet achieved any political expression, but there is a popular festival has become timid, yet growing, reaction against the deformation of black culture and black experience by the whites.

A recent film, *Xica da Silva*, was lambasted by

black sociologists for presenting a romanticized view of slavery—the Negro as a passive, grateful slave, and the whites as complacent and good-natured. The film, based on fact, tells the story of a slave girl who achieved her extraordinary sexual prowess.

In Rio a group calling itself *Quilombos* has been formed to resist the degradation of what its members see as Afro-Brazilian's greatest wealth—their culture, Samba, the martial art of *capoeira*, and other black arts have been transformed into tourist attractions. This sort of feeling has not yet achieved any political expression, but there is a popular festival has become timid, yet growing, reaction against the deformation of black culture and black experience by the whites.

In just one year the group *Xica da Silva*, was lambasted by

In an interview São Paulo magazine's lights, Astifló de a 27-year-old civil said they were fight the stereotype Brazilian Negro, the cult of the beautiful the show business Senhor Oliveira i to explain: "The intention of being towards whites—our nation of negritude imply conflict. Wh in the American his pride in the be characteristic of ou This new pride black is inevitably grow with the African on Brazil. It will mean that at is will accept and take being a largely nation instead of that most Brazilians ing to be whites.

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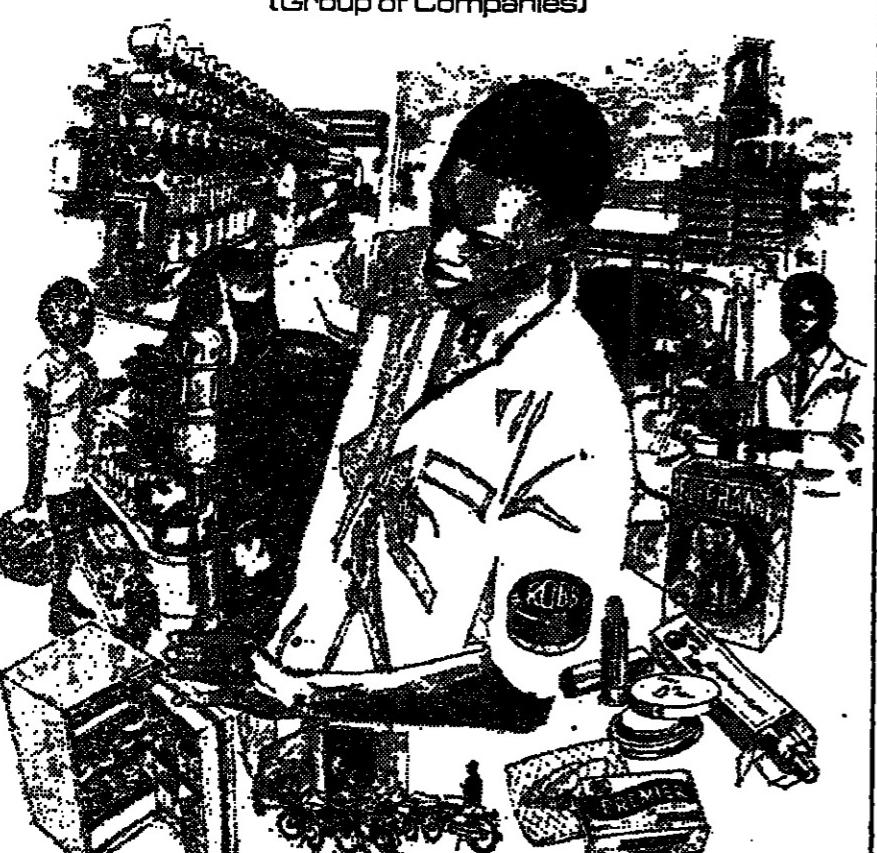
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US: cultural gap could disappoint

Michael Binyon

try into eight regions, according to the distribution of the black population and each has a director responsible for sifting and selecting the leading black exponents.

The cost of taking part in Festac is about \$600,000. By last month the Federal Government had given a grant of only \$115,000 to cover transport but money would be raised by voluntary donations, company contributions and among the black community. All of the artists taking part in Festac do so without charge. Charter air flights have been arranged to take the 1,000 participants to Africa.

The importance of this large American presence is that it brings to a climax a new wave of African influence that has historically punctuated the development of black arts in the United States. In the 1920s, the "Harlem Renaissance" owed much to Africa, and again in the 1960s the political and artistic struggle of American blacks was influenced by the anti-colonial struggle in black Africa.

Dr Jeff Donaldson, head of the art department at Howard University in Washington, the United States' leading black academic institution, said: "Each wave of African influence has had more effect. There was now great interest in searching for roots. Black people are the only group that did not come to this country voluntarily, and so had our roots obscured. That's not healthy when everyone else here looks back to some other country to find their heritage."

Indeed, the black author Mr Alex Haley has just written a best-seller called "Roots" which traces his own family back to the capture and transportation of his ancestors.

Dr Donaldson, who is deputy president of the American entry to the festival, said that the African heritage had been shrouded in romanticism, and obscured by questions that were unanswerable. But there had been a good deal of research recently, and a conscious following of traditional African art forms, particularly in art, where the influence of brightly coloured tribal mask painting is obvious, and in music, where images of Africa are constantly evoked and blended with the urban black American musical tradition.

The African influence in the 1960s spread beyond the black artistic community. Jewelry, pop music, clothes design and personal grooming society as a whole.

(especially the Afro hairstyle) were deliberately avoided by African Americans", he said. "If art truly reflects the culture that produces it, it is going to contain all the characteristics that make up the culture. How much integration is there now in education, employment?"

What will be the effect of a more intensive exposure to Africa? Dr Donaldson said it would revive interest in the African heritage.

For many artists it would be their first face-to-face contact with something they had tried to experience at second remove, and this was bound to give their work renewed vigour. Indeed one of the aims of the American organizers is to put on a post-Festac exhibition to test the influence of the African experience.

There is a danger that Africa will be a disappointment for many and the cultural gap between American blacks and Africans has been well publicized. But though disappointment was a normal reaction, Dr Donaldson said those going to Nigeria were not ordinary tourists.

"We are bringing over people who have heightened perceptions; many have already had some correspondence with artists in Africa." Recent art forms had depended much on subconscious "survivals" of African art: the reaction to rhythm, attitudes to colour and design, and approach to the theatre.

All this would make participants in the festival quick to explore and accept the similarities and differences between black culture now found in free Africa and that of the United States.

Dr Donaldson's belief in the fruitfulness of contacts at the festival is based on experience. The 1966 festival in Senegal, although small and attracting only about 75 leading black American artists, had a disproportionate influence.

Many black Americans went to Senegal to celebrate President Leopold Senghor's birthday recently. There are plans to set up a permanent centre for African-American art on an island just off Dakar — symbolically, the Island used as a slave dungeon for those awaiting transportation to America.

Black art in America is very much an entity in itself.

It influences some forms but does not integrate with the mainstream society. American culture, if there is such a thing, is a mix of CIA activities in Chile, school segregation and political intrigues and says it looks like Europe in 1958. Gil Scott-Heron is a witty and ruthless expositor not just of the black plight, but of all the injustices he sees in society.

The National Gallery has less than 10 works in it by African Americans", he said. "If art truly reflects the culture that produces it, it is going to contain all the characteristics that make up the culture. How much integration is there now in education, employment?"

The one art form that has

been already been left far behind by contemporary black musicians. There are probably far more blacks in Europe whose cultural growth was frozen at the moment they left America now playing "Dixie" than in the United States.

Much current black art in Africa will do with the black struggle for equality.

But the political aspect is not intended to be the main theme of the American contribution.

Nevertheless, some of the leading artists going to Nigeria are deeply engaged in the struggle. Haki Madhubuti is one of the founders of the Afrikan Liberation Art Ensemble. A poet and musician, he changed his name from Don L. Lee to emphasize his African origins. He spells African with a "k" to emphasize the cultural commitment (though he is keen that this is not confused with Afrikaner culture).

Haki Madhubuti, on the

festival's board of directors in the United States, is a

handsome man who reaches

at Howard University and has probably done more than any other artist to strengthen

identity with the Third

World and blacks in Africa.

He has a publishing company

called Third World Press

which sells millions of politically committed paperbacks dealing with black political and cultural issues.

Other black musicians

have broadened their theme

and, speaking from and for

the black community, have

also taken a general political

stance. The commentary on

one record made by Gil

Scott-Heron during the Nixon

era is a harsh indictment of

the whole political system.

"Just how bland can

America be", he asks.

America's face is drowning

beneath the cesspool of

Watergate." He runs through

list of scandals and in-

justices — Vietnam, the

CIA

and so on.

It influences some forms but

does not integrate with the

mainstream society. Ameri-

cans are displaying

ons of clothing, decor,

weity.

His has demanded con-

tinuous organization. The

committee responsible for

the festival was set up in 1972

in a conference of 300

black artists in Chi-

tao, Nigeria. The

pop music, clothes design

and personal grooming

society as a whole.

Australia: comfort and contacts

by Stewart Harris

I found the poster very striking. Partly, the effect was visual: the profiles of two aboriginal men, sharp and beautifully lit, huge, on shiny art paper. But the greater effect came from the words—"Black Australia".

"Black Australia"—the excellent cheek of the contradiction to what has been true for 200 years. "Black Australia", it said, "participating in the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture, Nigeria '77."

The thing is a defiant banner, after years of work by the rather lonely festival committee of seven Aborigines, representing fewer than 150,000 in a population of 13 million which is almost totally white. The committee comprises John Moriarity, the chairman, Merle Jackson, Kath Walker, Gordon Briscoe, Vince Copley, Wunduk Marika and Ted Loban, who represents the elected National Aboriginal Consultative Committee (NACC), an advisory body to the Australian Government.

The Aborigines have persevered as far as Lagos, despite a change of government in Canberra which cut the festival grant by \$440,000 to \$420,500 and thus ensured that Sydney's vital new Black Theatre and the vigorous dancers of the Torres Strait Islands would not get to Lagos.

This deeply depressing cut came as part of an 8 per cent cut in the total budget learned directly from Aborigines will embarrass Australian governments into more action for their black citizens. More positively, Aus-

tralia's Aborigines, if so dismally infested when the vote should be increasing, if there is to be any continuing recovery for a people so cruelly oppressed and deprived authority whose population is growing three times as fast as that of the whites.

A small contemporary dance group from Redfern in Sydney, where many Aborigines have settled, will present pieces like *Taxi Conversation*, *Jazz* and *Brolga Dancing Girl*, to the accompaniment of clapsticks, in the old way. The group has been working closely with the festival committee in Canberra.

In recent years, at last much has been done for Australian indigenous culture and an Aboriginal Arts Board, comprising Aborigines only, has sent groups to the South Pacific and to the United States. Paradoxically, the art of an ancient people has been preserved and revitalized for reasons of subsistence, as artists have a growing demand for their products and been partly protected by their own marketing company funded by the Government.

More than 35 Aborigines are in Lagos, most of them artists, but the co-ordinator is the kernel of the festival, according to the NACC.

For some years Aborigines have been travelling abroad for cultural and political reasons. There have been, for example, two delegations to China since 1972. Lagos simply accelerates the process and makes it easier for the governments of black nations generally to ask for informal relations with Australian Aborigines.

What these governments

but this was impossible without specific training.

The festival's governing body in Nigeria has agreed to provide money for the \$10,000 registration fee for the United Kingdom's delegation to the festival in Nigeria.

The British Council has also said it will give financial support for two of the items scheduled, but the organizers in Britain are disappointed that the Government, which declares its belief in a multi-racial society, is not showing more interest and giving more generous financial assistance to its black people who are participating in such an important event.

The festival is an ambitious attempt to gather together the best artistic expression of black people's experience, and the British zone entries have been selected by a committee comprising individuals prominent in British public life, skilled in

charcoal for black feathers, grass seeds, twigs and hair; and blood as an adhesive.

When the festival is over, this exhibition will be taken by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs to Ghana, Tanzania and Kenya, where incidentally Keith Saunders, the vice-president of the NACC, has recently been on an unsponsored but perhaps important visit.

Culture cannot be separated from politics. Inside Australia, aboriginal art is a political thing in itself (without trying), because its very existence within an overwhelmingly white society keeps alive the unique spirit of a people threatened with extinction (however unconsciously) by a domineering culture and political system.

In Lagos, the Aborigines will rejoice in the presence of independent blacks and of blacks in the liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity. The vast majority of Aborigines want nothing more than a measure of self-determination as Australian citizens.

They resent that they cannot take a doctor of their own to Lagos. There is not one in the whole of Australia. So they are taking an Indian whom they much admire, Dr Devanesen, who has been working happily with his family in the centre and is now, like them, Australian.

The author is senior research fellow, the Australian National University.

range of black acting talent in Britain to come together for the first time—from the established actors and actresses such as Frank Slingueira, Oscar James, Lucia Lijettwood, Sheila Scott-Wilkinson and Norman Beaton, to those still at drama school such as Herbert Norville, and those who simply stepped in off the street.

Pressure is a film about a West Indian family living in London, round Tony, born in Britain, who has just left school with several O levels and is looking for a job. He has been turned down for a number of them, and his brother, who is becoming involved in Black Power politics, says it is because of colour. Tony disagrees at first, but as he begins to lose confidence, says that he is beginning to get the message.

continued on next page

Britain: hard to choose

by Penny Symon

George Devine award, will be performed, and is one of the items being supported by the British Council.

Mr Abbottsen, who was born in Guyana, came to England in 1963, and for four years worked in the Tower of London Armoury. His experience there formed the basis of *The Museum Attendant*, shown on BBC television in 1973.

We have not split up people from different countries of origin into separate groups, each group making its own contribution," Mr Cameron says. "As far as I am concerned, the first and foremost the British entry. Some of the people came to live in this country, but some would be unable to attend the festival.

The festival is an ambitious attempt to gather together the best artistic expression of black people's experience, and the British zone entries have been selected by a committee comprising individuals prominent in British public life, skilled in

against poverty, exploitation and inequality, with particular reference to life in Britain, is also the subject of *Pressure*, the first black feature film to be made in Britain and which will be shown at the festival.

The black people's struggle for justice, and some were born here. But their country of origin were of secondary importance."

A play by Michael Abbottsen, *Sweet Talk*, for which he was named joint winner of the Royal Court's 1972

The film enabled a large



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Senegal: proclaiming negritude

by Abdou Cissé

stricted to black people, we would take part in the festival, otherwise not. The Nigerian Government has assured us that at the symposium it will be black people only, who are discussing black civilization and education. And we have no reason to doubt the word of Nigeria.

Not having followed, or having got lost in, the vicissitudes of the Second World Festival of Black and African Peoples simply failed to grasp what the President of the Republic, honorary chairman of the forthcoming gathering, who was speaking through the minister, and that Senegal's participation in the event was an affair of state and not the exclusive province of a mere Cabinet member.

Indeed, interest in the festival has always been more or less limited to those directly concerned, a small group of establishment artists and writers, Ministry of Culture officials and bandwagoners. If there is one person who is particularly aware of this, it is President Senghor himself, who declared, on his return from his annual holiday in Normandy in mid-September: "I think that Senegalese public opinion is simply not very enlightened and that we have not gone into the details" about the festival.

The most edifying detail so far voiced by non-Senghor is alone, slipped out in the same statement: "This is to be a festival of negritude". For the first time the main bone of contention was laid bare.

"The difference arose because our Nigerian brothers wanted to turn this world festival of Negro arts into a pan-African festival", the statement said. "We said no. The Pan-African Festival is organized by the Organization of African Unity and it is, in effect, a manifestation of Africanness, with its dual aspect of Arabness and negritude. But this is to be a festival of negritude."

"It is certainly a good thing to invite our Arab brothers to take part in the event, but as for the symposium which is to discuss Negritude culture, it is only natural that it should be confined to black people, black people discussing among themselves, which all the Arab countries, with a couple of exceptions, have very well understood."

"So we said that if this rule were respected, that is, that the symposium be re-

stricted to black people, we would take part in the festival, otherwise not. The Nigerian Government has assured us that at the symposium it will be black people only, who are discussing black civilization and education. And we have no reason to doubt the word of Nigeria.

President Senghor and General Olusegun Obasanjo, Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs of Nigeria, have done more than just exchange messages. They have met at a date and place unspecified in the communiqué, but probably under threat of isolation from traditional West African friends, hastened to Lagos for the second summit meeting of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

At first sight, the scales seem weighted in favour of President Senghor in this quarrel. The Second Congress of Black Writers, held in Rome in 1959, had, among other things, resolved that a World Festival of Negro Arts and Literatures should be organized periodically to take stock of black achievements, reaffirm the values underlying black civilization and set some guidelines for the future.

Only two former colonies had, at that time, won their independence, Ghana and Guinea.

Following in the footsteps of men like Edward Wilmot Blyden, George Padmore and Marcus Garvey, Léopold Sédar Senghor, Aimé Césaire and Léon Gérard Damas had made a name for themselves, particularly among the French intelligentsia, by questioning the alleged superiority of white culture and civilization.

Today, although he admits privately that negritude badly needs updating, President Senghor cannot accept an open challenge to the philosophy which is the cornerstone of his literary and political career. Hence the succession, in Dakar, of conferences on negritude, and the attacks and sometimes surprisingly petty revenge taken against anyone or any event, such as the Algiers Pan-African Festival, considered as a threat to his cultural hegemony.

Hence, too, his successful meetings of renowned opponents, such as Wole Soyinka who, during the first festival in 1966, coined the most biting condemnation of negritude: "The tiger doesn't proclaim its tigritude; it leaps."

Only fairly late in his literary career have President Senghor's poetry and writings reflected such concepts as Arabness—a sign of the times, no doubt. One can therefore well understand his repugnance at the idea of others—African Arabs, that is—defining what lies at the heart of his philosophy, on the basis of their own precepts and not on his.

Gabon, when a party official handed him a press agency report on the Ivory Coast Minister of Culture's press conference the same day. This announced that henceforth his country was siding with Nigeria on the festival issue.

The nature of Dr Diop's agreement over Captain Finges's "increasing Nigerianisation" of the festival and the reasons for that sudden withdrawal of confidence in him are not altogether clear, despite the flood of explanations.

In May, a Federation Government Cabinet meeting announced two unexpected pieces of news: that Senghor had decided to withdraw from the festival "which Dakar and President Senghor in person strongly denied"; and that Dr Diop was relieved of his post.

A lightning visit to Paris by Dr Diop in the company of Wole Soyinka to sort out the muddle directly with President Senghor produced no change in the position of the Nigerians who immediately appointed a new secretary general.

All those decisions, to be valid, should have been taken not by Nigeria but by the supreme authority of the festival, its international committee, which Nigeria stubbornly ignored throughout the process.

Captain Finges, successor to Chikw Anthony Enahoro at the head of the committee, did not seem to be at all bothered by procedure. He explained Nigeria's decision to sack him as the outcome of deepening disa-

greement over Captain Finges's "increasing Nigerianisation" of the festival and his own denunciation of bureaucratic ineptitude and舞弊的 sharks who dived into the festival budget, turning the forthcoming event into a festival of contracts".

Dr Diop said he himself had offered to resign on a number of occasions, finding it impossible to work in these conditions, but had been reprieved, upon his arrival in Paris, by President Senghor to remain in office. He had, however, been so disillusioned that he took the precaution of submitting a job application to Howard University, Washington.

When the storm broke, President Senghor spoke at one point of convening the international festival committee with a view to organizing a "festival addressed specifically to blacks", which Dr Diop would certainly have headed.

Public opinion, excited by the fate of M Séné some months back, is today unperurbed by Dr Diop's fate. As Captain Finges, successor to Chikw Anthony Enahoro at the head of the committee, did not seem to be at all bothered by procedure.

Dr Diop held a press conference in Dakar on June 1, where he was flanked by Senegal's Minister of Culture. He explained Nigeria's decision to sack him as the outcome of deepening disa-

greement over Captain Finges's "increasing Nigerianisation" of the festival and his own denunciation of舞弊的 sharks who dived into the festival budget, turning the forthcoming event into a festival of contracts".

To some Zambians it could be a way of dancing at a shebeen; to others offering guests perhaps a little more than they can eat or drink.

A deeply hospitable and friendly people, Zambians take pride that when a guest comes to the house he never goes away empty.

That is one aspect of a culture. It should really be called "way of life".

Zambia is a young country. Despite the vastness of the land, it is still a frontier of the Copperbelt or in the multiracial but characterless capital, Lusaka.

But the hunt is on and since independence an army of good work has been carried out by field researchers, social anthropologists and students of the oral tradition.

As late as 1965 an Iron Age site was discovered in Southern Rhodesia showing

direct cultural links with

settlements (and fairly intricate pottery designs) around

the Kalombo Falls. Zambians

speak with pride about the

Zimbabwe ruins almost as if

they were its own which,

taking away political bounda

ries, they are.

In a country without a

great tradition of literacy

the real work is being

achieved by recording oral

traditions. The similarities

between the country's tribes,

some of them tiny, some

large and powerful like the

northern Lozis, it keeps the Zambian doll

together. Dr Kaunda's Gov

ernment has taken pains to

discover what unites his

tribes and play down what

divides them.

Musically, the selection is

exciting. Peter King, the

jazz musician, and Ian Hall

and Philip Ramoncon,

the classical musicians, will per

form. The British Council

is supporting Osibisa, the

superb Afro-rock band,

whose roots stretch back to

the time when Teddy Osei,

who plays the flute and saxo

phone, was playing with a

group called the Comets in

New Orleans, and has exhib

Zambia: jigsaw puzzle

by Trevor Grundy

usually pitiful ignorant whites in Rhodesia, South Africa or the drinking haunts of former colonial Africa adopt a rigid mental stance when discussing African or black culture.

skilled coppersmiths were used in Rhodesia, South Africa or the drinking haunts of former colonial Africa adopt a rigid mental stance when discussing African or black culture.

Legend has it that when the tribal chief Luba fell in love with a ruler, leading to the formation of the two tribes of the great Lake Tanganyika.

Anthropologists found incredible cultural parallels between the people of the Luba empire and ancient Zambia. Legend has it that when the tribal chief Luba fell in love with a ruler, leading to the formation of the two tribes of the great Lake Tanganyika.

Perhapse the threat of Mr Ian Smith's hostile Government to the south, an encroached and mocking expatriate community within Zambia, mainly because of its borders and key industries, forces that to happen.

However, there are encouraging signs that thinking Zambians are letting go a bit, relaxing and seeing Zambia culture for what it is: a rich jigsaw puzzle made up of tiny tribal pieces, 72 of them.

The Luba (one of the best educated culture-conscious tribes) also move away from the country's small, thin towns into the countryside. Apart from the handful of museums, it is certainly not be as dominant as the Bemba is a problem that the young Kavango.

But the hunt is on and since independence an army of good work has been carried out by field researchers, social anthropologists and students of the oral tradition.

Narrow minded and

seen as the great of African culture have done much the fascinating but the Bemba and structure patriotic.

Not so the Lunda, who are cattlemen, cattle and fa

Before indep

Caunda rel

the fiery Bemba Simon Kapwepwe, Copperbelt miner

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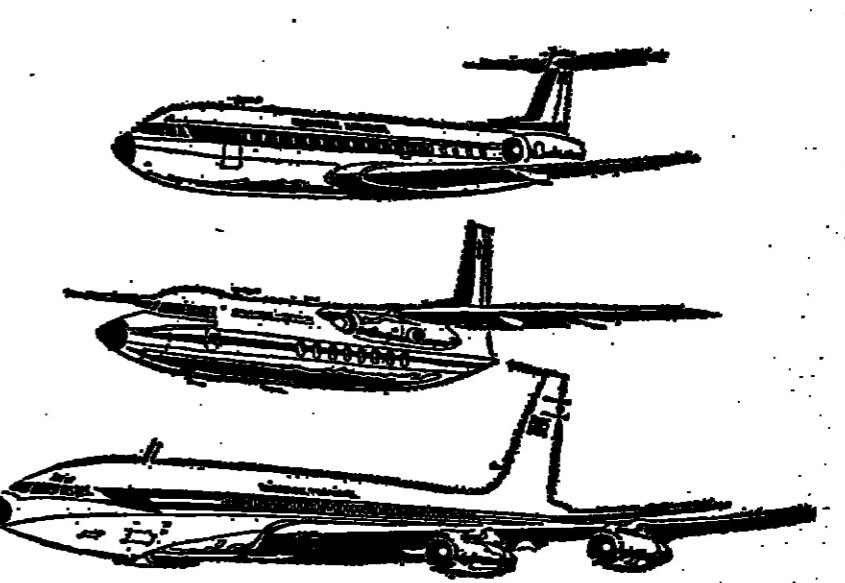
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JUCATING OUR MASTERS

A paragraph of the Fulton 1968 claimed: "The Civil Service today is still tally the product of the century philosophy of Trevelyan's report. It faces are those of the twentieth century. It is what we have is what we seek to do. The simplistic tone of the remark set the pattern entire document, one west pieces of analysis from a major government since 1945 and an for valuable reform ad.

monic necessities that fitted with the substance of economists and into Whitehall, in approved by Lord if, nothing else, cast his confident assertions aloft. Lord Crowther others in the 1960s that element of the "gifted classic and historian ancient universities by civil servant, num fessional and tough will do the trick. Life's simple as that.

It was once more talk in and Whitehall circles for a new breed of administrator. But it is very different from and fashionable fusion general science and analysis that produced 1960's critique with its preference for re-

vance", whatever that meant. It springs instead from a realization that the number of able people, of whatever social or educational background, capable of formulating policy in increasingly trying national and international circumstances and of running the vast concerns necessary to give effect to those policies, is limited, should be cherished, and nurtured wherever it is found and trained and used to best advantage. Lord Armstrong of Sanderson, former Head of the Home Civil Service, used to call such people "firemen".

Over the next year, plans may be laid for the foundation of a new staff college to sharpen the faculties of such men and women during their middle thirties in preparation for the most senior and demanding posts. Nothing firm has emerged as yet. The scheme is no more than a gleam in the eyes of some ministers and a handful of permanent secretaries. Its scope could be as wide as the public sector or it could involve a joint venture with private industry, extending existing courses which take place on a small scale at assistant secretary level.

It was not only nineteenth century romantics who compared the efforts of the Fulton committee unfavourably with its seminal predecessor, the two-man team of Sir Stafford Northcote and Sir Charles Trevelyan, whose legacy was so inappropriately derided in the opening lines of

being carried out was small. The Gilmore execution has now made it clear that last July's Supreme Court decision was not mere theory. The legal and psychological barrier to its being applied in practice has now been conquered and it will inevitably become easier to perform executions from now on.

Those states with prisoners under sentence of death ought not, however, to treat it as a signal for clearing their own death rows. They ought to look very carefully at the circumstances surrounding every prisoner under threat of execution before taking the final step. In particular they should not consider for execution anyone whose sentence pre-dates the decision of last July. There is an element of retroactivity about exacting that penalty from someone who committed a crime at a time when, in practice, the death sentence was not in operation in the United States. The civilized world should not be outraged at the resumption of execution as such. It will take a different attitude if states are seen to be applying the penalty to those who have already suffered the prolonged agony of waiting for repeatedly deferred execution.

For most of the 400 prisoners in "death rows" all over the country, the wait has been considerably longer. Some of them have faced the possibility of execution for up to 10 years, although many no doubt thought, especially after the 1972 decision, that the prospect of the never, took that view

EXECUTION OF MR GILMORE

or us in Britain to pass on the United States, its component states, the ultimate sanction punishment in its penalties for serious it for each country to itself whether or not such a sanction, and the Britain has in practice not entirely in theory) the death penalty make us think that our country has a duty same. It is essential, that those countries in capital punishment is use with restraint, subject to a proper procedure, but without delay.

Gilmore was the first to be executed in the United States for a decade. Since he has been a series of aimed at establishing institutional status of punishment. The abolition appeared to have victory when, in 1972, States Supreme Court number of death sentences violations of the state's prohibition of unusual punishment. The majority of the never, took that view

because of the capricious and haphazard effect of the laws in force at the time and did not see the death penalty as such as unconstitutional. A number of states therefore altered their laws to remove the elements which offended against the constitution, while retaining the penalty itself. In July last year the Supreme Court held that such reconstituted state laws were valid in effect giving the go-ahead to the resumption of judicial executions.

Mr Gilmore was sentenced to death after that decision. In spite of the various dramatic events leading up to his execution, he had only to wait just over three months between the sentence being imposed and its being carried out, and that period would have been shorter in the absence of interventions by a number of people and agencies, all acting contrary to his wishes.

For most of the 400 prisoners in "death rows" all over the country, the wait has been considerably longer. Some of them have faced the possibility of execution for up to 10 years, although many no doubt thought, especially after the 1972 decision, that the prospect of the never, took that view

SHOULD NOT BE BLACKENED, BUT IS RED

two separate issues to be examined at meeting of Labour's Executive Committee to be held tomorrow. I am to sort out the appointment of a Mr Andy Bevan, as our officer. The first objection from the motion of Labour Organisational post should have been of their members, such positions to be st to them and to be outside only if there is no candidate with very restricted opportunities but it is not wise for any politician to concede. Success appointment depends personality than upon the party. The best candidate from any one of a different backgrounds sensible course is to a choice as little as it is reasonable in the party, where there are tons of conscience to

the closed shop, to expect the chosen candidate to become a member of NULU, but not to insist that a person must be already a member in order to become a candidate. Moreover, even if NULU's case is to be conceded for the future, that is no reason why it should invalidate Mr Bevan's selection, which was made according to the procedures in force at the time.

The other, quite distinct, objection to Mr Bevan's appointment concerns his political allegiance. It is not that he is a Marxist in the sense that he has studied and drawn intellectual nourishment from the teachings of Karl Marx. The point can too easily be obscured by fastening on this narrow, if more precise, use of the word. The objection is rather that Mr Bevan has political attitudes and has been a supporter of political forces that are alien to the Labour Party. As a confessed Trotskyist he has been to all intents and purposes a subversive element within its ranks. Labour agents up and down the country are having to struggle against the way.

FRANK HOOLEY,
House of Commons.
January 11.

the net inflow or outflow of capital, industrial innovation and investment, the stability of commodity markets and the world economy are all also parameters whose effects are much greater than that of "union monopoly". They are, though, much more difficult to identify, document, quantify and condemn". The IEA thus appears to plump for the eye-catching and simple though not necessarily the significant factors.

For many years, the strength of Fabian proposals has been partly because we have not been afraid to discuss the more complex and difficult issues which affect the economy and partly because we have seen and accepted the link between economic and social factors. The IEA's tendency to exclude the latter and concentrate solely on economic variables means that the solutions proposed are wrong and cannot be successful.

It is unrealistic to ignore the job insecurity which accompanied (and would again accompany if the IEA had its way) a free market economy, or to pretend that working people are willing to pay the price for any resulting growth, the advantages of which are not guaranteed to accrue to them. Restrictive practices of the past are not necessary.

DIANNE HAYTER,
General Secretary,
Fabian Society,
11 Dartmouth Street, SW1.
January 13.

Towards a new economic order

From Lady Jackson of Lodsworth

Sir, Noting perhaps in the economic relations between the world's peoples over the last eighteen months has been more depressing and discouraging than the contrast between the continuous talk about a new economic order, the long official sessions, the tides of rhetoric, the oceans of print on the one hand and on the other, the complete failure of the developed and developing governments to agree on a single major point. Most of them would agree that the continuing division of world wealth is 70-30 basis—30 per cent for the 70 per cent who are poor, 70 per cent for the 30 per cent who are rich—is hardly a permanent or peaceful base for an interdependent world economy. Yet, this general perception cannot, it seems, be denied. Using a somewhat century analogy, one could say that the rich cannot bring themselves either to repeal the Corn Laws or to pass the Factory Acts.

It is to counter this depressing deadlock that Mr Robert McNamara, President of the World Bank, made the following proposal in a speech given in Boston on January 14 [reported in *The Times* the next day].

"In view of the continuing impasse at official levels, it seems to me that the chances of reaching such an understanding might be improved if a high-level, but deliberately unofficial, commission were organized to analyse the problem, and to recommend action to be taken by both developed and developing nations. Such a private commission should clearly be drawn from individuals from both the rich and the poor nations—who have either had practical political experience in dealing with development issues, or who have demonstrated outstanding professional competence in development economics. The chairman and convenor of such a commission ought to be a person of the great political experience and stature, say, of a Willy Brandt, the former Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany."

May we hope that governments, international agencies, non-governmental organizations concerned with development, and indeed all interested citizens will give their support to this imaginative concept of bringing in a new world of impartial and expert leadership to address the balance of the old world of nationally entrenched negotiators?

Yours faithfully,
BARBARA WARD JACKSON,
President, International Institute for Environment and Development,
Chairman, Society for International Development,
27 Mortimer Street, W1.
January 14.

Plight of the Bananans

From Mr Frank Hooley, MP for Sheffield, Heeley (Labour)

Sir, The plight of the Bananans first came to my attention nearly 10 years ago, when I was invited to look into their difficulties by my own church, the Methodists. I was considerably shocked by the information I managed to unearth by parliamentary question and discussions with Ministers, and not surprised to discover that this squalid story had provoked criticism in the Commons from Members on both sides of the House over a long period of years.

It must be almost unique in colonial history that a tiny community of about 2,000 souls should have the very land they lived on excavated from under their feet,

for the profit and benefit of three of the richest countries in the world, Britain, Australia and New Zealand. The specious briefs supplied to a long line of Ministers cannot excuse the sordid exploitation of these people, now exposed to public gaze by the forthcoming terms of the Megarry judgment, and I concur with every word of the eloquent article by Sir Bernard Braine in yesterday's *Times* (January 10).

I hope, in fact, that the existence of pressure from both sides of the House of Commons (which is both sincere and determined) will cause the Government, in Sir Bernard's words "to act generously with the Bananans, both financially and politically" so that the United Kingdom may relinquish with honour, not disgrace, our last responsibility in the South Pacific. Australia and New Zealand have a moral, if not a legal, responsibility too, and as Pacific powers an even stronger incentive to make Oceania a healed wound, not festering sore in that part of the world.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK HOOLEY,
House of Commons.
January 11.

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the net inflow or outflow of capital, industrial innovation and investment, the stability of commodity markets and the world economy are all also parameters whose effects are much greater than that of "union monopoly". They are, though, much more difficult to identify, document, quantify and condemn". The IEA thus appears to plump for the eye-catching and simple though not necessarily the significant factors.

For many years, the strength of Fabian proposals has been partly because we have not been afraid to discuss the more complex and difficult issues which affect the economy and partly because we have seen and accepted the link between economic and social factors. The IEA's tendency to exclude the latter and concentrate solely on economic variables means that the solutions proposed are wrong and cannot be successful.

It is unrealistic to ignore the job insecurity which accompanied (and would again accompany if the IEA had its way) a free market economy, or to pretend that working people are willing to pay the price for any resulting growth, the advantages of which are not guaranteed to accrue to them. Restrictive practices of the past are not necessary.

DIANNE HAYTER,
General Secretary,
Fabian Society,
11 Dartmouth Street, SW1.
January 13.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Towards a new economic order

From Professor L. C. Knights

Sir, I expect you are flooded with letters protesting against the decision of the executive of the Union of Post Office Workers to boycott all communications with South Africa—and I mean letters from people who are quite as strongly opposed to apartheid as the trade union leaders themselves. May I briefly make two points?

(1) Large firms with an interest in preserving the status quo in South Africa will find little difficulty in circumventing the boycott; it is easy enough, if you have the money, to post and to receive letters across the Channel. The chief sufferers will be South African opponents of apartheid—there are very many of them—who will be even more dismally cut off from the outside world than they are at present. This was a point made by many (though certainly not all) of the contributors to the symposium on a cultural boycott of South Africa in *Index on Censorship* (Spring and Summer, 1975), and on the basis of recent experience it seems to me a valid one.

(2) When a section of the population, even with the best of motives, virtually takes over the functions of a democratically elected government, it is in fact contributing to the erosion of freedom that is perhaps the most marked, as it is certainly the most terrifying, aspect of current history-in-the-making. That erosion—too mild a word, as members of Amnesty International well know—must concern us all. But that concern should not express itself in ways that in the long run will certainly be destructive of the ends which such means are intended to serve. The arm-twisting techniques can be adopted not only by those who are "right" in their aims but by the self-righteous, the fanatical and the self-interested. It is a bad precedent.

Incidentally, it would be interesting to know whether the POW executive has considered similar action against all countries where basic human rights are as effectively denied as they are in South Africa. The list is rather a long one, and consideration of it might persuade the officials concerned to pursue their laudable ends by more laudable means.

Yours truly,
L. C. KNIGHTS,
57 Jesus Lane,
Cambridge.
January 14.

From Professor B. A. Worley, QC

Sir, Thank you for your leader on "The conditions of freedom" (Jan-

uary 14).

Right of trial by jury

From His Honour Judge Starforth

Hill, QC

Sir, While appreciating the argument in support of there being the right of trial by jury for anyone charged with theft, however petty, namely, that 12 good citizens may come to a more just decision (where the issues are delicately balanced) than a smaller number of trained and experienced magistrates, this has never been proved to be so, and I doubt if it is.

There is, however, a powerful argument against allowing such a right of trial, namely, that jurors (who are not to be regarded as just pawns in the game) including hard-working and busy men and women are finding themselves more and more summoned away from their work for jury service only to find that it entails deciding whether a fellow citizen stole a bar of soap or two lemons. In such circumstances the zest to render public service at the expense of their working time will surely flag, and the whole system may be jeopardized.

Furthermore, consider the cost to the taxpayer of trial by jury, where the issue is the theft of two lemons (the jury must be paid, and the solicitor must be paid, and the counsel (who is obligatory) must be paid). The total cost is staggering. Finally, it seems to be forgotten that there is always the right of appeal from conviction to the hands of magistrates in the Crown Court, which is the form of a complete retrial of all the evidence and any additional evidence sought to be called.

Yours faithfully,
I. STARFORTH HILL,
Tull Hill,
Preston Caudoe,
Hampshire.

January 15.

From Mrs Joan E. Wheeler-Bennett

Sir, The Chairman of the Bar writes (January 10) that justice for the innocent defendant is more certain before a jury than before magistrates. He suggests that a defendant is less likely to receive the benefit of the doubt from two, or three magistrates than from a jury of 12 or 10, and so he believes the existing right to trial should be

preserved despite the recommendation of the James Committee.

But, even if he is correct, it follows also that the guilty defendant is more likely to be acquitted (which although less important than clearing the innocent is nevertheless important), that the process of law will be slower, that more people will wait longer in prison for their trial, that the taxpayer will bear greater expense, and that lawyers will have more work.

In my years' experience on the Bench I have never encountered a magistrate who was not acutely aware of where the burden of proof must lie, and who was not accordingly prepared to dismiss any case that was not proved beyond reasonable doubt.

I am convinced that a magistrates' court is just as common sense as mine is, and that the James Committee's "adequate" recommendation to expand its work and reduce trials by jury.

JOAN E. WHEELER-BENNETT,
3 Queen's Gate, SW13.

January 14.

Cannabis leaves

From Mr Julian M. Jacobs

Sir, Mr Aitken (January 15) is incorrect in suggesting that cannabis leaves are specifically excluded from the scheme of international control under the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961. Leaves are excluded from the definition of cannabis. However, Article 28 paragraph 3 of the same document states, "The parties shall adopt such measures as may be necessary to prevent the misuse of, and illicit traffic in, the leaves of, the cannabis plant".

I make no comment on the logic of the convention but merely wish Yours faithfully,

J. M. JACOBS,
The Metropolitan Police Forensic
Science Laboratory,
109 Lambeth Road, SEL 1.

January 17.

Napoleon's coat

From Miss Margery Weiner

Sir, Dr Yarrow's attractive theory (Letter, January 14) will not unfortunately pass muster. Nice-Matin, reporting the sale, described the coat as "very dark green with red facings and brass buttons, the uniform of a colonel of the *cheval de la garde*, originally worn by the Emperor and in which he is buried. According to Frédéric Masson, the great Napoleonic authority, on ceremonial occasions the Emperor wore the dark blue coat with white lapels and red cuffs of the *grenadiers de la garde*.

The testimony of Marchand, first valet *de chambre*, whose Mémoires were published only in 1952, must be conclusive about the diamonds. None were sewn into either a coat or cloak, but had been placed in a secret drawer of his dressing-case, whence they were seized by the 15th Silesian regiment who captured the carriage, nor did they apparently fall into Blücher's predatory hands.

The Emperor's carriage, sent as

a gift to the Prince Regent, was purchased by Mr Bullock of the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, and subsequently by Madame Tussaud, to be destroyed by fire in 1925. A letter from Mr Bullock, quoted in the Exhibition Catalogue



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 17: The Queen held a Council at Buckingham Palace at 12.40 o'clock this afternoon.

There were present: the Right Hon Michael Foot, MP (Lord President of the Council), Mr David Davies (Captain of the Gentlemen-at-Arms), the Right Hon Merlyn Rees, MP (Secretary of State for the Home Department) and the Right Hon Samuel Silkin, MP (Anthony-Gill).

Mr Dickson Mounter, MP (Minister of State, Department of Energy), Mr Robert Sheldon, MP (Financial Secretary, Treasury), Mr David Steel, MP (Leader of the Liberal Party), Mr Donald Stott, MP (Member of Parliament, Scottish National Party) and Mr Alan Williams, MP (Minister of State, Department of Industry) were sworn in Members of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Mr Neville Leigh was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Right Hon Michael Foot, MP, had an audience of the Queen before the Council.

A memorial service for Lord Forester will be held at All Saints' Church, Bressingham, on Monday, January 24th, at 2.30 pm.

The Hon Mrs Peter Lanristen gave birth to a son in Venice on Friday.

A memorial service for Dr Harold Darke, will be held at St Michael's Church, Coramhill, on Monday, February 14, at 12.30 pm.

A memorial service for Mr R. G. C. Levens, fellow and tutor of Merton College, 1928-1968, will be held in the chapel at Merton College, Oxford, on January 25, at 12.15 pm.

Birthdays today

Lord Bowden, 67; Lord Buckton, 71; Sir Jean T. Henderson, 61; Lord Sanderson, 69; Sir Michael Stewart, 66; Sir Reginald Terrell, 83.

Today's engagements

The Duchess of Kent launches bulk carrier for Welsh Ore Carriers, Austin and Pickersgill shipyard, Sunderland, 2.30.

Exhibition: Treasures of the print room, acquisitions 1975-1976, Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, 10-6.

Luncheon talk: Mr Enoch Powell speaks on patriotism, St Lawrence Jewry, next Guildhall, 1.15.

Lunchtime music: Musica da Camera, Roger Lord, oboe, Kerry Camden, bassoon, Hubert Dawkes, piano, Bishopsgate Hall, City, 1.05-1.50.

Christening

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Roy Calvocoressi was christened Caroline Enrica at St George Street, on Friday, January 14. Dr David Gordon-Brown and the Rev John Kidd officiated. Dr Frank J. G. Davis, the godparents, are the Revd Canon Dr Roy Hilton, Mrs John Kurwan, Miss Volanda Calvocoressi, Mrs Anthony Lloyd, and Mrs Simon Barrington-Ward.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: Brigadier C. S. Wallis-King, Brigadier General Staff (Intelligence), Ministry of Defence, to be Director of Service Intelligence in February, in the rank of major-general, in succession to Rear-General A. H. Farrar-Hockley. Brigadier H. A. J. Rey, consultant adviser in paediatrics, to be Commandant and Postgraduate Dean, Royal Army Medical College, Millbank, to be promoted to Major-General in July, in succession to Major-General H. S. Gavurin, who is to retire.

Brigadier G. H. W. Howlett, Commander 16th Parachute Brigade, to be Director of Army Recruiting in February, in succession to Brigadier E. A. Burgess.

Major A. M. Macmillan, manager, employment relations (DOS), Unilever, to be a member of the Central Arbitration Committee.

Dr R. W. J. Keav, to be executive secretary of the Royal Society, in succession to the late Sir David Martin.

Dr Richard Hoggart to be chairman of the Arts Council of Great Britain. Mr G. L. Hock bottle to be chairman of the council's housing the arts committee, and Mr J. Manduell, chairman of the touring committee, both in succession to Sir John Witt.

The following to be member of the Department of the Environment's Arts Council Committee: Mr Peter Engineering, Mr D. Farquhar, Director, Mr D. G. Gill, director of planning, Hampshire County Council; Mr R. L. Newell, Mr N. P. P. O'Brien, Councillor; Mr R. G. Rose, Chief Executive, City Council; Mr J. Saunders, chairman, Women's Solid Fuel Council; Mrs M. Williams, Gwynedd County Council.

Westminster School

The Lent Term begins today. Dr Andrew Brown joins the staff this term. A. J. Newman (Rugby) is captain of the school. Dr T. M. Sugden gives the first recital on March 1. The school concert will take place in the abbey on March 21 and term ends on March 26.

Equity may ban American actress from musical

By Our Arts Reporter
Equity will make a formal decision today whether to allow an American actress to appear alongside a suitable British cast of *A Chorus Line* when it takes over at Drury Lane on Monday.

The union indicated yesterday that it had advised the Department of Employment not to issue Miss Donna McKechnie with the necessary work permit. But Mr Michael Bennett, Miss McKechnie's husband, drafted a formal application, which the union's council will discuss today.

Mr Bennett is the director of the show, which has played to packed houses with an American cast since it opened last July. He said yesterday that if the union



Teaching craft: Mr Edward Anger, of Wanborough, Wiltshire, at work on a barn at Manor Farm, Albourne, where he is teaching the rudiments of his

craft to Mr Laurence Taylor, aged 18, an out-of-work school-leaver, under the Government's work-experience programme. The six-month course will be paid £16 a week by the Manpower Services Commission.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. J. A. North and the Hon Carolyn Bambury

The engagement is announced between Kim, only son of Mr and Mrs T. F. North of Kemsanton, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, and Isabel, elder daughter of Lord Bathurst of Sutton, of Davigelwood Place, Gloucester, and Mrs R. O. G. Gardner, of Hanmer Park, Chichester, West Sussex.

Dr S. C. Carter and Miss A. M. Devas

The engagement is announced between Simon St Clair, son of Mr and Mrs Godfrey Carter of Old Bournbrook House, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, and Isobel Murray, only daughter of Mr Michael Devas of Geneva, and Mrs R. O. G. Gardner, of Hanmer Park, Chichester, West Sussex.

Mr L. J. Craig, RAF and Miss S. F. Holloway

The engagement is announced between Mr and Mrs J. D. Craig, son of Maud, Aberdeen, and Suzanne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C. G. Holloway, of Fleet, Hampshire.

Mr P. N. Davis and Miss S. E. Danielli

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs A. Davis, of Toronto, Canada, and Suzanne Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. F. Danielli, of Denewood, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

Mr G. F. Inge and Miss J. Lester

The engagement is announced between George Patrick Francis, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. W. N. Inge and Miss J. Lester of The Cobweb House, Studland, Dorset, and Joyce, twin daughter of Mr G. D. Lester, OBE, of Madrid, Spain, and the late Mrs L. Solomon and stepdaughter of Mrs C. E. Lester.

Mr M. R. Power and Miss V. J. Seller

The marriage took place on January 15, at Holy Trinity, Brompton, between Mr Michael Richard Parker Power and Miss Victoria Jane Seller.

Mr M. R. Power and Miss V. J. Seller

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URI SOLOV
cancer at Kirton
ips battle
market
e, page 19

pec price increases puts ,000m on valuation Britain's N Sea fields

Wielwys
set to world oil prices
d with record produc
ts in the North Sea
the value of
shore oil production
75m a day to £4.4m a
the beginning of

Oil prices now being
or oil from the British
the North Sea have
just under 9 per cent
bers of the Organiza
Petroleum Exporting
increased prices on

these increases will
the value of oil in
commercial oilfield
45,000m to around
although a very large
of this rise will go
Government through
revenue tax and
corporation tax
on the oil companies
per cent increase
in a barrel of North
is likely to exceed the
a barrel cost of im
al, although this will
remain until the com
of working under a
a pricing system have
tied out. Britain, how
still importing more
oil from abroad than
from the North Sea

Energy Correspondent
hopes of importing
crude oil from
abia received a boost
when it was learned
Petroleum and
among four European
ates chosen by the
handle an extra two
ars of oil that will
able daily during the
months of this year.

French company, Com
française des Pétroles
ENI, the Italian
company are also on
list. Each has been
one of the American
any partners in the
consortium to work
distributing the extro
additional supplies of
Saudi oil available
the world is the
in the Saudi camp
force the 11 members
organization of Petro
port Countries who
a 10 per cent rise in
reduce their prices or
action.

It will cause further
hazard to Iran and Kuwait,
already been hard hit
ecision of the Saudis
United Arab Emirates
e-prices by only 5 per
ng to oil industry
London, the pressure
two countries in par

ther study to be made before sion is taken on German bank

Norman
ie Landesbank Giro
future as an indepen
has been referred
study to the bank's
tors, the State of
d the Hesse Savings
ociation.

merged this evening
rst meeting in Bonn of
expert group nomin
mouth to study the
oblems.

up, which met today
a chairmanship of Dr
eiger, president of the
avings Banks and Giro
spent most of its
ing out how to apply
ditions attached to
£75m) of aid pro
the association for the
month.

id was part of a
cash injection sup
the State of Hesse and
an savings bank move

ment at the end of last year
to help wipe out the bank's
accumulated loss provisions of
around DM3,000m.

A brief communiqué issued
by the Savings Bank Association
at the end of today's meeting
said that the "structural"
problems of the bank had been
discussed without going into
details. If the two governments
find that a sweeping cure for
the problems of the bank is
necessary, the committee will
meet again in a Savings Bank

spokesman added.

Last month various possible
alternatives for a "qualitative"
reorganization of the Hessische
Landesbank problems were
aired in public. There is a
strong body of opinion in the
German savings bank movement
that the reparation of the
Hessische Landesbank is now so
tarnished that its ability to sur
vive as an independent insti
tution is doubtful.

Two models for its reorgani
zation have been in the fore
front of discussion.

The most spectacular was the
proposal to merge the bank
with the Westdeutsche Landes
bank Girozentrale of Düssel
dorf, and the Deutsche Giro
zentrale of Frankfurt. This
would create an enormous bank.

A brief communiqué issued
with a balance sheet total of
DM130,000m—more than
three times the size of the pre
sent Hessische Landesbank and
larger even than the Deutsche
Bank.

This suggestion has, how
ever, run into political opposi
tion both in Düsseldorf and
Wiesbaden, the Hesse State
capital, and has been turned
down by the powerful savings
bank movement in Bavaria.

The other proposal put for
ward by the Bavarians is that
the Hessische Landesbank
should merge with the Deutsche
Girozentrale only. This would
have the advantage of not dis
turbing the regional principle
on which the structure of the
German Landesbanks is based.

dlands attack on bank insurance takeover plan

Financial Staff
ers attack on Labour
posals for bank and
company nationaliza
Francis Sandlands,
the Committee on
Exports and chairman
cial Union, said last
this was a gamble
try could not afford
satisfy "the lunatic
of the Labour Party".
g to the Insurance
of London, Sir Francis
continued growth of
unreliable earnings by
and by the insurance
nd banks particularly,
on foreign confidence
egrity of the financial
which the City pro
to difficult to sus
confidence if threats
al interference, and
the nationalization re
allowed to con
e said.

Sir Francis had wel
e terms of reference
Wilson Committee,
e felt its membership
newly unbalanced".

Sir Francis Sandlands: "a
gamble the country cannot
afford."

Nevertheless, he felt that the
impending inquiry in the City
by Sir Harold Wilson and his
team should "give the City an
admirable opportunity to
explain how it works".

He said that this would be
especially so if the evidence
the committee as well as its
findings are published.

Laird shipyard at Birkenhead
which caused 4,000 layoffs may
be called off today. Union
leaders were last night expected
to recommend a return to work
at a meeting to be held today.

Jensen wound up

Jensen Motors Ltd, of Kelvin
Way, West Bromwich, was com
pulsorily wound up in the High
Court yesterday. Mr Justice
Oliver made the order on an
unopposed petition by Jensen
Motors Inc, of California, trade
creditors for £1,250,000, sup
ported by the International
Paint Co, Ltd, claiming £2,300.

Short-time at Krupp

Krupp will introduce short
time working at its Harburg
engineering and steel construc
works for three months
from February 1 because of the
poor order situation, a company
spokesman in Essen said yester
day. He said 360 of the 640
workforce would be affected.

More Meriden talks

Official from the department
of Mr Lever, Chancellor of the

Duchy of Lancaster and the
Prime Minister's economic
adviser, had talks yesterday
with leaders of the Meriden
motor cycle cooperative which
is in jeopardy after the Depart
ment of Industry's refusal to grant
a further £1m of state aid.

Matsushita Electric

Osaka, Jan 17.—Matsushita
Electric Industrial reports that
un-consolidated, after-tax prof
its rose by 26 per cent to
41,320m yen (about £83m) in
the year to November 20. Sales
rose by 23 per cent to
1,311,000m yen.

The group is paying an un
changed dividend of 10 yen a
day.—Reuters

Shell seeks DM200m

Frankfurt, Jan 17.—International
Finance NV is negotiating with a banking con
sortium led by Deutsche Bank
for a DM200m (£50m) 12-year
Eurobond probably at 6% per
cent. The bond will be guaranteed
by Shell Petroleum NV of The Hague and Shell Petroleum
—Reuters

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Leyland asks Government for pay flexibility to help £50m fringe benefits offer to workers

By Clifford Webb
British Leyland has told the
Government that unless more
flexibility is built into any
future wages policy it cannot
go ahead with a key section of
a new plan to sort out the chaotic
labour relations problem in
its car factories.

The scheme, which has taken
six months to negotiate with
shop stewards representing
Leyland Cars' 100,000 manual
employees, could cost the state
controlled motor group an estimated
£50m a year in substantially
increased payments for
sickness, layoff and redundancy.

Although this "leapfrogging"
will be halted temporarily by
the Government-TUC pact on
wages, the mounting tension
over differentials has been the
biggest cause of internal
strikes.

advising workers to make con
cessions which could lead to a
sharp fall in the number of
strikes. Last year, Leyland
Cars lost £250m worth of cars
through strikes—more than
70 per cent of them within its
own factories.

The biggest concession by
workers is acceptance of a com
mon start date for wage
negotiations to stop the present
"leapfrogging" in demands
made by more than 170 separate
wage bargaining groups.

But two increases would be
ruled out if phase three con
tinued with the present rule of
one increase a year.

The problem is that Leyland
workers the highest fringe
benefits in the motor industry.
In return, shop stewards are

The recommended new start
date for negotiations is
November 1 starting date.
Whatever the outcome of
company representations for
more flexibility, management is
banking heavily on shop
stewards accepting another
proposal for reducing strikes.

Layoff payments will be with
held for three months from any
employee who has taken part in
unofficial strike action during
the previous quarter which
lasted for half a shift or an
aggregate of eight hours.

This is the most contentious
clause and could lead to our
early rejection of the scheme at
mass meetings during the next
several days. There are already
reports that many workers are
not prepared to accept such a
fundamental change in their
right to withdraw their labour.

It would give Leyland
workers the highest fringe
benefits in the motor industry.
In return, shop stewards are

(Holdings). Provident already
owns 23.64 per cent of Cattie's
equity, and is offering 32p-a
share in cash for the rest,
valuing the whole company at
£4.98m.

The offer price is 60 per
cent above the level at which
Cattie's shares were standing
ahead of the announcement. But
they rose by 14p to 34p yester
day, as a Cattie's spokesman
claimed that the bid was made
quite in relation to the board's
plans for the company.

This holding would, Mr Lin
nell admits, open up possibilities.
But he points out that
Gateway holds only 10.9 per
cent of Bishop's voting shares
and that it remains a family
controlled company. Bishop's
shares did, however, improve
3p to 158p yesterday.

Guinness Mahon, the mer
chant banking arm of the
Guinness Peat Group which
holds 22.99 per cent of Linfood's
shares, are underwriting part
of the cash alternative and
hope to maintain the Guinness
stake at around 20 per cent of
the combined group.

Linfood shareholders will be
asked to increase the group's
capital to provide sufficient
additional shares to carry out
the bid and, under the rules of
the Takeover Code this pre
vented it from acquiring more
than 29.5 per cent of votes in
Gateway it bought yesterday.

Bid for Cattie's (Holdings):
Provident Financial, the Brad
ford-based personal credit and
specialized banking services
group, is bidding for another
company in the same line of
business, Hull-based Cattie's

area. Linfood are also the
second largest customers for
Gateway's Pink Stamp subsidiary
for the Bristol-based retailing
group Gateway Securities.

Linfood, which has been in
talks with Gateway for several
months has now acquired
shares carrying 29.5 per cent of
the voting rights, and the
unanimous support of Gate
way's board for its bid.

The bid is worth 63p in Lin
food shares with a 59.9p cash
alternative to holders of Gate
way's "A" shares against a
market price of 54.5p up 12p
yesterday. Gateway's first
voting structure gets scant
recognition in the terms. Its
£200,000 issue of Ordinary
shares carry 10 votes each
while its £2.5m issue of "A"
shares carry only one vote for
every 10 held. But Linfood is
offering only a small premium
for the main voting shares.

They would receive 70p in
paper or 63p cash. Linfood's
shares fell 7p on the news to
160p yesterday.

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Computer code number plan for supermarkets to replace price tags and speed up check-outs

By Patricia Tisdall

Plans to coordinate computer code numbers used for British food and grocery products through an article number bank have reached an advanced stage after almost 10 years of discussion within the trade.

The allocation of code numbers is the first step in a development which could eventually speed up supermarket check-out procedures and abolish the need for price labels to be placed on individual grocery products.

Depending on the outcome of ongoing discussions nearing conclusion within the EEC, the Article Number Association is expected to start functioning within the next three months. Details of how it

will operate are due to be announced at a conference to be held by the United Kingdom Article Number Association later this month.

The proposed system could, for instance, enable retailers to automatically reorder supplies from manufacturers and generally control stock levels.

If printed on product packets the code numbers could be used by supermarkets in conjunction with electronic cash registers to automatically scan products as they pass through the check-out.

This could be used to give shoppers an itemized list of purchases on their receipt. At the same time information about the sales would be transmitted direct from the check-out to retailer recorders or computers.

The Article Number Association has formed an itemized list of major retailers, including the Coop and Boots, and manufacturers such as Unilever and H. J. Heinz, to speed up things.

Electronic equipment manufacturers, including Inter-

national Computers, NCR and a number of Japanese companies, are looking to a standardized grocery product numbering system to improve sales of computer-linked electronic cash registers.

It is understood that at least 10 large British retailers, including the Green Shield-owned Argos group and Bentalls, the department store company, are already carrying out tests with such equipment.

Mr Stanley Maughan, chairman of the Article Number Association's administration director of Allied Suppliers, said: "The numbering system may eventually have as much dynamic impact on the United Kingdom grocery industry as the development of self-service

did years ago."

Vital Benn talks on minimum price for oil

By Roger Vielvoye

Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, today starts visits to his counterparts in France and Holland, his first action as the new chairman of the council of energy ministers.

Later in the week he will visit Belgium, Luxembourg and Italy and consult the Germans.

But the first meeting with M. Michel d'Ornano, the French minister of industry could be the most crucial since France has so far blocked Community efforts to agree on a minimum support price for oil. Britain considers such agreement an important plank in European energy policy.

During his European tour Mr Benn will be spreading the message that energy policy cannot succeed unless outlines put forward by official in Brussels take into consideration the different resources available to each member and its differing individual energy requirements.

Mr Benn wants the energy ministers' forum to be more active than it has been in the past.

Companies 'not fully using relaxed pricing rules'

By Ronald Emmer

A row between industry and the unions is likely to follow publication of the Price Commission's quarterly report in 10 days' time. It will deal with the September to November period of last year—the first report to be concerned wholly with the price code as amended last August.

It is believed that the Commission will point out that companies are not taking full advantage of changes made to the code last summer. Although it will probably be impossible to quantify how much of the extra £1,000m "headroom" has been taken up by industry, it is thought that the Commission will provide the unions with a ready-made argument against further relaxation of the code this summer.

When last summer's amendments were announced the Confederation of British Industry and the Retail Consortium described them as "totally inadequate", saying that the code should have been abolished or profits allowed to rise by six per cent.

Mr Hattersley will be faced with the delicate problem of finding a satisfactory compromise between these two views.

Sulzer UK to close plants employing 620

By Edward Townsend

Sulzer, the United Kingdom subsidiary of the Swiss engineering company Gebruder Sulzer, announced yesterday that it was closing its Sheffield factory and associated foundry at Bury, Lancashire, with the loss of 620 jobs.

The United Kingdom company, which produces paper-making machinery and welded components for use in process engineering, said that the Sheffield plant would close when contracts had been completed.

Sulzer UK said that the continuing economic recession and lack of new orders for heavy engineering products from the processing industries and particularly new investment in paper-making machinery, with resultant worldwide overcapacity, had forced it to cease production.

By the middle of this year when the closures are completed, it is estimated that the company will have suffered total losses of £6m over a six-year period.

Large and small systems for Woolworths

A blend of large, centralized computer systems and local distributed-computing systems based on minicomputers is being pursued by F. W. Woolworth & Co in the management of its chain of retail stores.

Woolworths have ordered a £900,000 ICL 2960 as a large mainframe unit, and is planning to base its central data-processing on the 2900 series.

At present it uses two ICL 19645 computers at Castleton, Lancashire, for store orders, stock control and warehousing applications; and a 1904A and a 1903A at Swindon, Wiltshire, for warehouse control.

The company has also bought a £75,000, 10-station, distributed processing system for the buying department at its London head office. This is based on Computer Automation's Alpa LSI-2/60 minicomputer.

According to Mr Ron Ward, the Woolworth senior executive responsible for management services: "This ties in with Woolworth's data-processing philosophy of using large

Computer news

mainframe computers for centralized applications, with distributed processing for local applications".

In a third computer-related deal, Woolworths have leased software from J. Harwell Data Processing to assist in the conversion of Cobol language programs from ICL 1900 to 2900 systems.

Sound mixer

A computer-assisted sound mixing system for recording studios which is claimed to be the first of its kind in the world is now being used by Air Recording Studios, London.

Designed by Rupert Neve and Co, specialists in studio sound control equipment, the system enables many different elements of a recording to be stored, manipulated and recalled in order to produce the final version in a much

more precise and comprehensive way than before.

The minicomputer-based system adds about £25,000 to the £40,000 price of a typical manual mixing console installation.

According to Mr George Martin, producer of Beatles records for EMI in the 1960s and now chairman of Air Recording Studios, it can cut the time needed to create the final product from the initial recordings by about half.

The minicomputer used is the LS1-10 produced by Computer Automation.

Car finder

A "Computacar" service, which matches a potential car buyer's requirements with models available at car shows, rooms which are registered under the scheme, is being provided to cover the Greater London area by Unilever Computer Services Ltd (UCSL), Wembley, Middlesex.

ICL for SWIFT

THE ICL (ex-Singer) terminal system designed for the

Society of Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) network has passed its acceptance tests for use by the organization's member-banks, the computer company has announced.

This is based on the ex-Singer 1500 series of transaction terminals. Combined with appropriate software for the international banking application, the unit is one of three officially recommended SWIFT Interface Devices.

Life assurance plan

Data Logic of Greenford, Middlesex, and Gresham Life Assurance Society are jointly implementing a comprehensive life assurance system on a Hewlett-Packard 300 Series 2 computer which will be located at the society's head office in Bournemouth.

Contracts worth about £250,000 covering equipment and software were recently signed by Gresham with Data Logic. Each user department will have its own terminal,

Kenneth Owen

UNITED KINGDOM TRADE

The following are the December trade figures, seasonally adjusted and corrected on a balance of payments basis with allowance for known recording errors, as released by the Department of Trade:

	Exports £m	Imports £m	Vessel balance £m
1974	15,899	21,119	-5,220
1975	18,768	21,972	-3,204
1975 Q1	4,531	5,383	-852
Q2	5,126	5,160	-681
Q3	4,632	5,621	-989
Q4	5,126	5,808	-682
1976 Q1 r	5,445	5,823	-448
Q2 r	6,020	6,988	-968
Q3 r	6,150	7,316	-1,116
Q4 p	6,818	7,847	-1,029
1976			
April r	1,932	2,224	-292
May r	2,018	2,369	-351
June	2,070	2,335	-265
July r	1,959	2,474	-515
Aug	2,049	2,333	-284
Sept	2,142	2,509	-367
Oct r	2,231	2,572	-341
Nov r	2,225	2,734	-509
Dec p	2,382	2,541	-179

r revised
p provisional

TERMS OF TRADE

The following are the unit value index numbers for visible trade not seasonally adjusted issued by the Department of Trade yesterday:

	1970 = 100	Exports	Imports	Terms of Trade
1972	111.0	109.6	101.3	
1973	126.0	139.7	90.2	
1974	182.7	218.0	74.6	
1975	198.5	245.7	80.8	
1975 Q1	184.9	240.5	76.9	
Q2	193.4	241.1	80.2	
Q3	202.2	247.1	81.8	
Q4	210.1	250.4	80.7	
1976 Q1	219.0	270.0	81.1	
Q2	234.2	282.6	78.8	
Q3	247.4	303.3	80.0	
Q4 p	261.7	332.1	78.8	
1976				
April	228.4	285.4	80.0	
May	233.9	284.2	79.5	
June	240.4	301.7	78.8	
July	242.6	306.1	78.3	
Aug	247.9	308.0	80.5	
Sept	251.7	313.8	82.2	
Oct	256.4	324.0	79.2	
Nov r	261.8	334.8	78.2	
Dec p	266.9	337.4	79.1	

r revised
p provisional

RETAIL SALES AND HP

The following are the seasonally adjusted figures for the volume of retail sales and value of new instalment credit released by the Department of Industry:

	Sales by volume £m	New credit extended £m
1972	105.8	2,497
1973	110.7	2,871
1974	159.9	2,517
1975	107.9	2,987
1975 Q1	111.3	711
Q2	102.9	759
Q3	105.5	748
Q4	105.8	769
1976 Q1	107.3	883
Q2	106.7	873
Q3	107.7	913
1975		
Dec	107.0	265
1976		
Jan	109.8	282
Feb	107.1	276
March	105.5	280
April	108.5	291
May	105.7	291
June	106.1	291
July	103.3	290
August	103.9	304
Sept	108.8	319
Oct	107.3	309
Nov r	109.3	331
Dec p	108.5	—

r revised
p provisional

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Selling a bottle of Scotch at the price of a dram

Danger to B of reflating the US econ-

From Mr David Green

Sir, If one regards the

Dangerous
of reflating
the US

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Gilts as institutions run down liquidity

no short "tug" in the market and a widespread expectation that MLR will be cut this month by the gilt market sharply higher yesterday.

By the end of the day of a full point among the leading market talkers in heavy applications for "long" tugs" on Thurs-

day. The market was banking on yesterday, however, were hopes that Burmah was about to be relieved of its financing commitment for construction of the liquefied natural gas vessels with the Indonesian state oil group Pertamina. After Burmah's troubles in 1975 when United States institutions involved in the financing of these LNG vessels dropped Burmah like a hot brick, the company has had to finance the building of these vessels off its own bat. That has meant £7m a month cash outlay and loans to date of almost £100m.

General Dynamics came to Burmah's aid by agreeing to take over responsibility for these vessels providing it could obtain suitable financing guarantees from the United States Maritime Administration.

These guarantees have been an unconscionable time materializing. But about a month ago

Mr Richardson, the United States Commerce Secretary, said that a decision would be made in the life of the Ford Administration, so with Mr Carter taking over on Thursday something will have to be said by tomorrow.

Plainly the market is expecting a favourable decision, a notion Burmah itself does not dispel. But whether or not there is any follow through depends on future recovery prospects and there the picture is more hazy. Certainly, with its disposal programme behind it, the LNG position has been Burmah's major worry and its solution will bring the group closer to a positive cash flow.

But even if the patient is walking again, it is still a long way

from complete recovery and my

advice still is to continue to

treat the shares as a short-run

speculative counter.



Mr Alastair Down, chairman of Burnham Oil: a favourable decision on its LNG vessels is expected this week.

increase this year of two points generally in interest rates is the most that can be expected and may think it will not be much more than one point.

A rise of these proportions should not be much of an obstacle to the present declining trend in United Kingdom interest rates. The differential between British and American rates had become, by historical standards, excessively wide, and there would almost certainly have been scope for contraction without harming the pound even if the extra stabilizing influence of the sterling balances safety net was absent.

"Three sisters"

The different route

Genting Highland Hotels, which last week successfully torpedoed the plans to merge the Harrisons & Crosfield three sisters—Golden Hope, London Asiatic, and Pataling—may not be impressed with detailed proposals for the latest scheme which is designed to achieve the same end by a different route.

The official document states explicitly that it is intended that shareholders in the new entity should have the option of holding shares either through a United Kingdom company or a new Malaysian holding company. It seems we are back to the possibility of Harrisons exerting greater control through a pyramid structure.

Short of making a bid at well above the current market price for Golden Hope, it seems that Genting is boxed in. The document shows that Harrisons and associates, London Asiatic and Pataling now have 32.1 per cent of Golden Hope.

M & G Investment, which is currently in favour of the takeover merger, accounts for a further 3.1 per cent. As I noted last week, the beauty of the current proposals is that they need maximum acceptances of 50 per cent (compared with 75 per cent under the previous terms) so Genting only needs a further 9 per cent to win.

But Genting can gain comfort from the fact that the proposed dividend has been increased from 3.48p gross to 4.62p for the year to the end of March 1978, which may prove to be a face-saver. Meanwhile, after the interrogation handed out by Genting at last week's Golden Hope shareholders' meeting, the official document contains a great deal of non-statutory, but useful, information.

Burmah Oil

Not wishful thinking

Burmah's 5p rise to 52p yesterday was more than just wish-

ful thinking that the Government would attempt to forestall the group's court action for the return of its British Petroleum holding by agreeing to hand back some of the profit when the stake is finally sold.

What the market was banking on yesterday, however, were hopes that Burmah was about to be relieved of its financing commitment for construction of the liquefied natural gas vessels with the Indonesian state oil group Pertamina. After Burmah's troubles in 1975 when United States institutions involved in the financing of these LNG vessels dropped Burmah like a hot brick, the company has had to finance the building of these vessels off its own bat. That has meant £7m a month cash outlay and loans to date of almost £100m.

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Provident/Cattle's

A fight seems probable

If immediate reactions are anything to go by, Provident has a fight on its hands now that it has finally committed itself to the bid for Cattle's which the City has long been looking for but which it was not expecting as soon as this.

Everything points that way: the 14p appreciation in Cattle's share price yesterday, to a level 2p above the value of the bid; the due response from the opposite camp; and the fact that the opposite camp has potential control through the holdings of directors and their families, and trustee holdings—of rather more of the equity than has Provident itself. For Provident, however, Cattle's is worth the fight which is evidently to come.

This is not simply a matter of the match of business, the geographical fit, the offeree's healthy profits record or its ebullient half-time performance. Nor is it a matter of the half-time forecast of a "surprise factory" increase in the year's results despite the autumnal rise in interest rates. All this is well.

But the most obvious attractions of a bid for the outstanding equity stem from the fact that, having no say in the management which would justify it in treating Cattle's as an asset, Provident at present treats its holding purely as an investment. Of Cattle's £275,000 pre-tax profit for 1974/75, therefore, Provident's profit and loss account benefited to the tune of a mere £52,000—being its 25.6 per cent share of Cattle's dividend.

As things stand at the moment Provident could finance its all cash bid (itself a reflection of a balance sheet whose ranks has changed dramatically for the better over the past 18 months) out of short-term cash still reckon to add something over 1p a share to historic earnings of under 5p. So the bidder can certainly afford to up the ante somewhat.

THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 18 1977

Six groups hold over 90pc of the business for the 9.4m colour television sets rented in UK

TV rental groups battle for market share

Ronald Emmer

Over 60 per cent of the 9.4 million colour television sets in British homes are rented and increasing those subscribers whose contracts are with companies whose major interest is in selling rather than letting are finding that their contracts are being taken over by one of the six main major specialist rental groups. For the past two years there has been an increasing concentration of the rental business into their hands, and it is a process which is expected to continue this year. Today they hold 90 per cent of all rental business.

They are keen to buy the rental contracts of any retailer and will even take over his whole business if the price is right and the rental side of the business sufficiently attractive. The attraction for the rental company is increased density, that is the number of subscribers per outlet.

The vendor, especially if he is ceiling to trade as a retailer, can realize as much as 18 to 20 monies in rental income per contract while the consumer, it is claimed, benefits from better service and increased choice of receiver. The rental companies claim that when a takeover takes place there is little evidence of subscribers wishing to change to a different rental.

The competition to take over rental contracts is expected to intensify during the coming year. With increased reliability and lowering of real prices of colour sets the attractions of outright purchase for the customer are eroding the competitive edge of rental. Further,

broadcast), Granada, British Relay, Visionhire, Television, and Rediffusion, are expected to continue at reasonable levels for several years, but new contracts are unlikely to achieve the levels of 1972/74 when an additional 2.25 million sets were let annually. Thus the major drive will be to increase density per outlet to maintain cash flow growth.

The National Television Rental Association says some 7.5 million contracts held by member companies are serviced from approximately 3,000 showrooms, giving an average revenue per showroom of 2,500 contracts. The remainder are held by smaller outlets mainly retailers, who have much weaker densities in general.

Thorn believes that any branch which is able to maintain a density of 5,000 is doing "extremely well" at double the industry average, whereas Television is thought to have achieved an average density of only approximately 1,700.

Overheads are relatively fixed per branch except for the cost of additional engineers and their transport. It is thought within the industry that with increased reliability one engineer can service 700 to 800 contracts annually. However, there is an optimum size per branch, which Thorn reckons to be a catchment

area of 35,000 homes. Above that size overheads in terms of service length and the unwillingness of a customer to travel some distance to make monthly payments reduce efficiency and effectiveness.

Consequently, while the days of the major takeovers are probably past, the majors will remain on growth trends partly because the increased profitability given by the swing to colour, partly through takeover and increased density and partly by increasing effective set life.

The issue causing the headache in boardrooms, however, is what follows the transfer to colour. Will it be television games, teletext, video disc equipment, allowing repeated viewing of selected programmes, or complete video recording equipment?

No company has yet committed itself to any one of the options, especially as they are all awaiting the Adcom committee's report on the future of broadcasting. Decisions will have to be made in about two years, but until then the rental companies are waiting to see if there is any growth of public demand for any of the options, and probably more important, waiting for the major manufacturers further to finance development costs and perfect equipment.

Once these problems have been overcome, there will then be the difficult hurdle of capital outlay to jump. Video recorder today cost more than a colour television, and thus if there is to be a market for such developments in the rental sector, careful calculations will be necessary on costs and charges.

John Earle

Italy's state industry record tarnished by mismanagement

The mismanagement and malpractices which public opinion has come to associate with much of state-owned industry in Italy can be summed up in one four letter word, Egam.

Had it been a private group, Egam (Ente Autonomo di Gestione per le Aziende Minerarie e Metalmeccaniche) could hardly have survived today. Indeed, the almost unheard of step, for the public sector, was taken at the end of last year to start liquidation proceedings for seven companies employing 18,200 of the group's 34,000 workers.

The proceedings were subsequently halted by an emergency decree allocating 90,000 lire (£50m) of Government funds to cover salaries and immediate obligations while committing the Government to come up with a rescue plan by the end of February.

Sigmar Antonio Bisaglia, Minister for State-Owned Industry in Siger Giulio Andreotti's minority Christian Democrat Government, had intended to allow 500,000 lire (£33m), thus enabling Egam to carry on much as before. But in the face of an outcry threatened in Parliament, the sum was whittled down to 90,000m.

Rescue plan

Egam's activities fall under three main sectors, mining, metals, and machinery, chiefly textile machinery. A logical rescue plan would disband Egam and allocate its companies to public sector corporations operating in these areas.

It remains to be seen whether the Government can muster the necessary resolution.

There was little logical reason for Egam's formation in the first place. Established in 1958, it remained inactive until, in 1971, Sigmar Flaminio Piccoli, the then Christian Democrat Minister of State-Owned Industry, put under Cogni (special steels), then Amico (mining and non-ferrous metals) and some other companies.

Today the group includes also Sogesa (Sardinian lead and zinc mines), Breda Siderurgica (special steels), Comstex (textile machinery), Comsal (aluminium processing), Somime (pyrites, sulphuric acid), Monte Amaro (mercury), and Verrococo (coke, chemicals, glass).

Egam's history has provided the Opposition with plentiful ammunition for attacking the seeder side of public sector management. Signor Mario Einaudi, put in charge by Signor Piccoli as chairman, followed a policy of acquiring firms in difficulties, including some of the deadwood cast out by Signor Eugenio Cefis in his reorganization of Montedison, so that Egam got the name of "Montedison's dustbin".

The 1974 Egam accounts, for example, showed in addition to operating losses of £89.2m lire (£5.2m) and exceptional losses of 15.034m lire (£10m), an item of 56.966m lire (£3.9m) losses brought by companies incorporated in the group.

In such ways, critics observed, pressures could be exercised on politicians through the presence of a large loss-making group subject constantly to the threat of plant closure and job redundancies.

Signor Einaudi's methods came to a head when he tried to buy a substantial shareholding in a private Genoa shipping line, Viamar E.

Fassio. The deal did not go through, for the sector was quite outside Egam's brief, and the price offered would have been unrealistically high—the shipping firm soon afterwards went into liquidation. Signor Einaudi had to resign last summer.

Latterly the corporation has been administered by a government commissioner, Signor Ugo Mirti, who however has been able to do little in the face of debts of over £800,000 lire (over £530m), many of them short-term liabilities.

It has been calculated that Egam has eaten up £125,000m lire of funds in the past three years, and that it would have been cheaper to pay the workforce to stay at home. It will be a millstone round the neck of the government for months to come.

Egam's debacle has fuelled polemics over management throughout state-owned industry. The energy corporation ENI and the smaller conglomerate Efin have escaped the most pungent criticisms, the former thanks to its active international role, the latter thanks to maintaining a low profile.

Besides Egam, the main target has been the vast Iri (Istituto per la Riconversione Industriale) Corporation, with ramifications in most sectors of industry and finance.

Once "the Iri formula", whereby state companies raise funds and operate under market conditions in fulfilment of Government strategic policies, was hailed as a new dimension for public enterprise, and was studied as a model worth copying in other countries like Britain.

In recent years, however, many Iri companies have become prominent mainly for their losses, whether in steelmaking (Finisterre), shipbuilding (Fincantieri), shipping (Finmare), now being reorganized, engineering (Fincarcano), motor cars (Alfa Romeo), aviation (Alitalia) and confectionery (Aragno and Motta, regrouped in Unidal). Fiat has withdrawn from partnership with Iri companies in Aeritalia (aerospace) and Grandi Motori (aviation engines).

Depressed sectors

Iri officials reject any suggestion that "the Iri formula" is to blame. These companies, they maintain, operate in sectors which are depressed generally, where the record of private enterprise is little if any better. In fact, some Iri companies have been doing better than might be expected, such as Dalmare (special steels), the Stet telephone group, and the big Iri banks.

Less easy to answer are criticisms of the Iri management for submitting supinely to certain dubious decisions by the politicians.

Why did Iri accept the construction of a steelworks at Gioia Tauro in Calabria, where no one sees prospects of profits, except the local Mafia?

Why did Iri agree to the chairman of Camillo Crociati, a man whose past was known and who has fled abroad to escape arrest in connection with the Lockheed corruption scandal?

State industry is unlikely to be a success unless its managers have the courage when necessary to stand up to the state.

Business Diary: What Thomson didn't do next • SBCF's Armstrong

Thomson, the departed tycoon to be ennobled EEC ioner for regional recently accepted his knighthood, but the Advertising Authority. Now for he at first accepted, declined: director of Irish Textile Confederation.

TC has been without a director since Clifford former diplomat and Burman executive, resigned him. In the meantime has been done by Stuart who has had to commit his work as director of Irish Man-Made Fibres in.

its formation the BTC the channel through the industry speaks both sides here and will mission and, although organizational terms, it is increasingly effective.

he post should remain so long is very worrying confederation, which both employers and

ant talks are to start few weeks on the formation of the Multi-Fibre in, a Gost arrangement meant to smooth the textiles between in developing its first new company in two

side the stable of 15 companies in which SBCF has stakes.

SBCF usually takes minority holdings, except in the case of Keith Prowse ticket agency and Vero Resin, which makes glass-reinforced plastic tanks at Peterlee under licence from an Italian concern.

The company has invested about £5m since Armstrong joined in 1970. The amount spent is governed not by what Co-op Insurance (and occasional partners like Norwich Union) have to spend, so much as upon how practical are the propositions that come along.

Indeed, Armstrong says, half the problem is finding enough entrepreneurs worth backing.

Furthermore, he says he's confident that SBCF is more likely to come upon practical new investment propositions this year than at any time in the last two years.

He bases this confidence upon the export potential of the manufacturing sector, the fact that home order books are already up to 100 per cent on 1974/75, and the belief that there will be more stability this year in exchange rates and government fiscal attitudes.

Europa

Confidence returning to the monetary world

The improvement in the monetary and financial situation which began to emerge a little over a month ago has seen the whole been confirmed and even strengthened during the early days of 1977.

Two major international developments have contributed to this. First the decision by Saudi Arabia to increase the price of oil by only 5 per cent and its expressed intention of making this decision till by throwing the crushing weight of 500 million tons' production (stepped up by 50 million) into the market if it considers such action warranted by the situation.

Second, the massive intervention by the International Monetary Fund and the three rich countries (United States, West Germany and Japan) to help Britain to sort out its financial problems.

In addition there have been some satisfactory economic developments, such as the spontaneous recovery in the United States and the resumption of growth in West Germany.

Finally, there has been a renewal of confidence, most notably in the United States, where business circles are taking a favourable view of Mr Carter's new team and the measures recently introduced by Dr Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve System.

In Britain the Bank of England has reduced minimum lending rate from 14.5 per cent to 14 per cent. British interest rates could fall below this level once the effects of the earlier

Maurice Bommensath

THE LIST OF APPLICATIONS WILL BE OPENED AT 10 a.m. ON THURSDAY, 20th JANUARY 1977 AND WILL BE CLOSED ON THE SAME DAY

13½ per cent TREASURY LOAN, 1993

ISSUE OF £1,250,000,000 AT £96.00 PER CENT

Payable in Full on Application

Interest payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November

This Loan is an investment falling within Part II of the First Schedule to the Finance Act 1976. Applications for admission to the Stock Exchange must be made to the provisions of Section 7 of the Trustee Act 1925. Application has been made to the Council of the Stock Exchange for the Loan to be admitted to the Official List.

THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND are authorized to receive applications for the above Loan.

The principal of and interest on the Loan will be charge on the National Loans Account of the Bank of England of the United Kingdom.

The Loan will be repaid at par on 23rd November, 1993.

The Loan will be issued in the form of stock which will be registered at the Bank of England under the name of the applicant and will be paid up in one new penny, by instrument in writing according to the Stock Transfer Act 1963. Transfers will be free of stamp duty.

Interest 13½ per cent compounded quarterly to bear interest to 29th February in denominations of £100, £200, £500, £1,000, £5,000, £10,000, £50,000, £100,000 and £1,000,000.

Stock will be interchanged with bonds without payment of any fee.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November. The first payment will be made on 23rd May, 1977, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

The second payment will be made on 23rd November, 1977, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1978, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1979, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1980, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1981, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1982, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1983, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1984, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1985, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1986, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1987, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1988, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1989, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1990, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

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Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1992, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1993, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 1994, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

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Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2002, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2003, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2004, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2005, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2006, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

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Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2009, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

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Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2012, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2013, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2014, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2015, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2016, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2017, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2018, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2019, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2020, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2021, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2022, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2023, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2024, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2025, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2026, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2027, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2028, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2029, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2030, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2031, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2032, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2033, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2034, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2035, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2036, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2037, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2038, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2039, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2040, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2041, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2042, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2043, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2044, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

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Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2046, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2047, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2048, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2049, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2050, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2051, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2052, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2053, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2054, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2055, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2056, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November, 2057, at the rate of £4.64 per £100 of the issue.

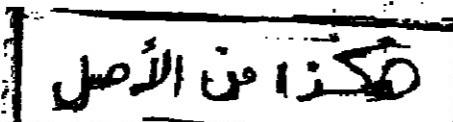
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Strong start to account

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§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.



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Deadline for cancellations and alterations to copy (except for 12.00 hrs prior to the day of publication) is 12 noon on the day before the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a copy of the original copy must be shown to the advertiser. On any cancellation the cancellation slip number must be quoted.

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.—Romans 5:1.

BIRTHS

ALBERT.—On January 15th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, 4 Avril and John—daughter Claire, sister for James.

BURKEMAN.—To John and Mary, son of Mr and Mrs John Burkeman, Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London.

CAMA PINTO.—On 14th January at Beckenham, Kent, Mrs. Camilo Pinto, wife of Carlos Pinto, and Clarissa, a son of Carlos and Elizabeth Pinto.

DAVIES.—On January 15th at Caroline and Arwyn, a son.

DAVIS.—On 14th January, 1977, David and Linda, a son.

DODD.—On 14th January, 1977, Daniel, a son; Jonathan Michael, daughter-in-law.

DUNN.—On 14th January 1977, to Philip and Judith, a son.

GRAVES.—On January 17th, to Anne and Peter, 4th Floor, 100 High Holborn Street, London.—William, a son.

HORNIGOOD.—In January 15th in Brussels to Mindy and Alan—a son.

HOOKEY.—On 14th January, 1977, to Christopher and Helen, a daughter.

JAMESON.—On 14th January, 1977, to Stephenie and Mark, a son.

KIRK.—On 14th January, 1977, to Peter and David, a son.

MARSH.—On 14th January, 1977, to Gill and Chris—a daughter.

SMITH.—On Jan. 14, to Paula and Michael, a son.

WEBSTER.—On 14th January, 1977, to Diane and John, of Stamford.

WHITROCK.—On January 16th at St Luke Hospital, Bedfordshire, Daniel (Alexander), a brother.

WEATHERSTON WILSON.—On 14th to Isobel (new French) and Angus, a first-born son (Matthew William).

WILTON.—On Jan. 14, to Royal, Paula and Michael, a son.

WILLIAMS.—On 14th, to Gill and Chris—a daughter.

WHITE.—On 14th January, 1977, to Diane and John, of Stamford.

WILSON.—On 14th January, 1977, to Diane and John, of Stamford.

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